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ABSTRACT

During the 94th Congress, 719 bills and resolutions were referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Testimony was taken in 58 open hearing sessions. There were 30 markup sessions and 23 bills reported to the House. Of this number, 15 were enacted and 9 were pending in the Senate committee at adjournment. Of the 15 laws enacted, two were Senate bills. Most of this summary is devoted to brief description of the provisions of each of the 15 laws enacted and of each of the nine pending in the Senate committee. Also included are data tables showing additional cost to be incurred as a result of legislation enacted as well as expenditures to date from appropriated funds (including annual breakdown from 1965 through 1976). (WL)

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SUMMARY OF VETERANS' LEGISLATION REPORTED

94th Congress

Bills and Resolutions Referred and Hearings-Markup Sessions Conducted

During the 94th Congress, 719 bills and resolutions were referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Testimony taken in hearings conducted in 58 open hearing sessions is contained in 2,832 printed pages of hearings. There were 30 markup sessions and 23 bills reported to the House. Of this number, 15 were enacted and 9 were pending in the Senate committee at adjournment. Of the 15 laws enacted, two were Senate bills.

SUMMARY OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS REFERRED AND HEARINGS-MARKUP SESSIONS CONDUCTED

	CONGRESS														
	80th	81st	82d	83d	84th	85th	86th	87th	88th	89th	90th	91st	92d	93d	94th
Bills and resolutions referred	498	519	436	402	537	491	628	592	508	791	683	740	693	839	719
Hearings sessions	60	64	50	46	71	69	55	45	50	71	46	43	37	43	58
Hearings, printed pages	3,596	2,355	2,562	5,337	4,271	4,834	3,472	3,055	3,927	4,659	3,854	4,353	2,480	2,837	2,832
Markup sessions	49	34	27	55	37	28	21	15	21	32	13	27	21	15	30
Bills reported	60	44	36	36	48	44	42	52	41	47	[1] 19	34	26	14	23
Bills in House	16	1	.....	14	1	5	2	[2] 8	[3] 5	[4] 4	2	1	2	.....	.....
Pending in Senate committees	6	16	14	2	17	11	6	[5] 3	/	[6] 2	2	9	[7] 7	2	[10] 9
Bills on Senate Calendar or in Senate	.....	1	1	2	.....	.....	1	[8] 2	0	1	0	0	.....	.....	.....
Recommitted	.....	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Bills vetoed	1	2	4	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bills passed over veto	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	[9] 4	1	.....
Laws enacted	36	24	22	25	30	26	33	[7] 32	29	30	[1] 15	24	13	[1] 12	[11] 15

[1] Includes S.J. Res. 197 making technical correction to law, which was brought to House floor for immediate consideration and passed by unanimous consent.

[2] Including 4 bills enacted as amendment to other legislation; 1 left in House when similar Senate bill returned to Senate; and 1 similar to another bill enacted (Public Law 87–645).

[3] Provisions of 3 of these bills were passed by the House as a separate bill, and the provisions of 1 bill were included as an amendment to another bill which became public law.

[4] One bill in a Senate committee had purpose accomplished administratively; 5 others were enacted as sections of another bill; and portions of 1 bill left in the House were enacted as part of another bill.

[5] Includes 2 bills enacted as amendments to other bills.

[6] Includes 1 bill enacted as amendment to another bill.

[7] Some laws include the substance of more than 1 bill reported separately. Thirty-nine separately reported bills were enacted, 7 as amendments to other legislation.

[8] It should be noted that of the 7 bills left in Senate committee, 2 were included as provisions of other bills which were cleared for the President's approval.

[9] Three additional public laws were enacted which had not been reported from the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs (Public Laws 93–208, 93–293, and 93–337).

[10] Includes H.R. 9576, subject matter of which was contained in S. 969, passed in lieu.

[11] Includes two public laws which were not reported from the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs (Public Laws 94–324 and 94–502).

LAWS ENACTED

Public Law 94–71 *(H.R. 7767)*—Increased Rates of Compensation and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation for Service-Connected Disabled Veterans and for Certain Surviving Widows and Children:

Provides increases for service-connected veterans rated 10 to 50 percent. Cases rated 60 percent or more disabled are increased 12 percent. Statutory awards, relating to more serious disabilities, are increased by 12 percent. Additional amounts for dependents which are paid to veterans rated 50 percent or more disabled also are increased by 10 percent. Dependency and indemnity compensation for widows and children of veterans who died of service-connected disabilities are also increased 12 percent.

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The bill also increases the annual clothing allowance of $150 to $175. It provides for a retroactive payment in the case of increased disability compensation to pay from the date of increased disability up to one year prior to the application for an increase when it is possible to determine the date disability increased.

The tables which follow outline the amounts of increases for service-connected disabled veterans:

Percentage of Disability or Subsection Under Which Payment is Authorized	Increase	
	From	To
(a) 10 percent	$32	*$35*
(b) 20 percent	59	*65*
(c) 30 percent	89	*98*
(d) 40 percent	122	*134*
(e) 50 percent	171	*188*
(f) 60 percent	211	*236*
(g) 70 percent	250	*280*
(h) 80 percent	289	*324*
(i) 90 percent	325	*364*
(j) 100 percent	584	*655*
Higher statutory awards for certain multiple disabilities:		
(k) (1) Additional monthly payment for anatomical loss or loss of use of, any of these organs: 1 foot, 1 hand, blindness in 1 eye (having light perception only), one or more creative organs, both buttocks, organic aphonia (with constant inability to communicate by speech), deafness of both ears (having absence of air and bone conduction)—for each loss	52	*52*
(2) Limit for veterans receiving payments under (a) to (j) above	727	*814*
(3) Limit for veterans receiving payments under (1) to (n) below	1,017	*1,139*
(l) Anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands, both feet, 1 foot and 1 hand, blindness in both eyes (5/200 visual acuity or less), permanently bedridden or so helpless as to require regular aid and attendance	727	*814*
(m) Anatomical loss or loss of use of two extremities so as to prevent natural elbow or knee action with prosthesis in place, blind in both eyes, either with light perception only or rendering veteran so helpless as to require regular aid and attendance	800	*896*
(n) Anatomical loss of two extremities so near shoulder or hip as to prevent use of prosthesis or anatomical loss of both eyes	909	*1,018*
(o) Disability under conditions entitling veteran to two or more of the rates provided in (1) through (n), no condition being considered twice in the determination, or deafness rated at 60 percent or more (impairment of either or both ears service-connected) in combination with total blindness (5/200 visual acuity or less)	1,017	*1,139*
(p) (1) If disabilities exceed requirements of any rates prescribed, Administrator of VA may allow next higher rate or an intermediate rate, but in no case may compensation exceed	1,017	*1,139*
(2) Blindness in both eyes (with 5/200 visual acuity or less) together with (a) bilateral deafness rated at 40 percent or more disabling (impairment of either or both ears service-connected) next higher rate is payable, or (b) service-connected total deafness of one ear next intermediate rate is payable, but in no event may compensation exceed	1,017	*1,139*
(q) [This subsection repealed by Public Law 90-493.]		
(r) If veteran entitled to compensation under (o) or to the maximum rate under (p), and is in need of regular aid and attendance, he shall receive a special allowance of the amount indicated at right for aid and attendance in addition to (o) or (p) rate	437	*489*
(s) Disability rated as total, plus additional disability independently ratable at 60 percent or over, or permanently housebound	654	*732*

In addition to basic compensation rates and/or statutory awards to which the veteran may be entitled, dependency allowances are payable to veterans who are rated at not less than 50 percent disabled. *The rates which follow are those payable to veterans while rated totally disabled.* If the veteran is rated 50, 60, 70, 80, or 90 percent disabled, dependency allowances are payable in an amount bearing the same ratio to the amount specified on the next page as the degree of disability bears to total disability. For example, the veteran who is 50 percent disabled receives 50 percent of the amounts which appear on the next page.

	Increase	
	From	To
If and while veteran is rated totally disabled and—		
(A) has a wife but no child living	$36	*$40*
(B) has a wife and one child living	61	*67*
(C) has a wife and two children living	77	*85*
(D) has a wife and three or more children living	95	*105*
(plus for each living child in excess of three)	17	*19*
(E) has no wife but one child living	24	*26*
(F) has no wife but two children living	41	*45*
(G) has no wife but three or more children living	61	*67*
(plus for each living child in excess of three)	17	*19*
(H) has a mother or father, either or both dependent upon him for support for each parent so dependent	29	*32*
(I) for each child who has attained age 18 and who is pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution	55	*61*

The following increases are provided for widows of deceased veterans whose deaths are service-connected and who are receiving dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) payments:

WIDOWS[3,4]

Pay Grade	From	To	Pay Grade	From	To
E–1	$215	*$241*	O–1	$271	*$304*
E–2	221	*248*	O–2	281	*315*
E–3	228	*255*	O–3	301	*337*
E–4	241	*270*	O–4	318	*356*
E–5	248	*278*	O–5	350	*392*
E–6	254	*284*	O–6	394	*441*
E–7	266	*298*	O–7	427	*478*
E–8	281	*315*	O–8	467	*523*
E–9	294[1]	*329*[1]	O–9	502	*562*
W–1	271	*304*	O–10[2]	549[2]	*615*[2]
W–2	282	*316*			
W–3	291	*326*			
W–4	307	*344*			

[1] If the veteran served as sergeant major of the Army, senior enlisted advisor of the Navy, chief master sergeant of the Air Force, sergeant major of the Marine Corps or master chief petty officer of the Coast Guard, the widow's rate is increased from $316 to *$354*.
[2] If the veteran served as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Chief of Staff of the Army, Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, or Commandant of the Marine Corps, the widow's rate is increased from $589 to *$660*.
[3] If there is a widow with one or more children of the deceased veteran below the age of 18, the DIC monthly rate for the widow is increased by $29 for each such child.
[4] The widow's aid and attendance rate is increased from $64 to *$72*. (Widows or dependent parents who receive death compensation and meet qualifications for the aid and attendance allowance also receive this increase.)

When there is no widow receiving dependency and indemnity compensation, payment is made in equal shares to the children of the deceased veteran. These rates are increased as follows:

(1) One child, from $108 to *$121*.
(2) Two children, from $156 to *$175*.
(3) Three children, from $201 to *$225*.
(4) More than three children, from $201 plus $40 for each child in excess of three to *$225*, plus *$45* for each child in excess of three.

The additional payment to a child who has attained the age of 18 and who became permanently incapable of self-support while under such age is increased from $64 to *$72*.

If DIC is paid to a widow and there is a child of her deceased husband who has attained the age of 18 and who became permanently incapable of self-support while under such age, DIC is also payable to each such child, concurrently with the DIC payment to the widow, in the amount of $108. This additional payment is increased to *$121*.

If DIC is payable to a widow and there is a child of her deceased husband who has attained the age of 18 but has not attained the age of 23 and is pursuing a course of instruction at an educational institution approved under the veterans' education programs, DIC is paid to each such child, concurrently with the DIC payment to the widow, in the amount of $55. This additional payment is increased to *$62*.

Effective Date: August 1, 1975.

Estimated Additional First Full Year Cost: $490.7 million.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: June 12, 1975: House Report No. 94–287 on H.R. 7767, with technical amendment.
June 19, 1975: Senate Report No. 94–214, on S. 1597, with amendments.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
June 16: H.R. 7767 considered and passed House by a yea and nay vote of 389 yeas.
June 17: H.R. 7767 referred, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
June 23: Senate considered and passed H.R. 7767, after amending to include all provisions of S. 1597, as reported.
July 22: Considered and passed House, with amendments by voice vote.
July 24: Senate reconsidered, agreed to House amendments, and cleared for President.
Approved: August 5, 1975.

Public Law 94–123 *(H.R. 8240)*—Veterans' Administration Physicians and Dentists Comparability Pay Act of 1975:

Briefly, this new law will—

(1) Provide for payment of special pay to eligible physicians and dentists in the Department of Medicine and Surgery of the Veterans' Administration as follows:

(a) Full-time physicians, with the exception of those in certain narrowly drawn categories of positions equally applicable to both physicians and dentists found by the Chief Medical Director not to be experiencing a significant recruitment and retention problem, will receive $5,000 in "primary special pay," plus up to $8,500 in variable "incentive special pay."

(b) Full-time dentists—with the exception of those in certain narrowly drawn categories of positions equally applicable to both physicians and dentists will receive $2,500 in "primary special pay," plus up to $4,250 in "incentive special pay."

(c) Part-time physicians and dentists employed on a half-time basis or more in the Department of Medicine and Surgery, with the same narrowly drawn categorical exceptions, will receive "base special pay" plus "additional special pay" proratably reduced by the proportion of time employed in VA facilities.

(2) Remove the salary authorization for Chief Medical Director and Deputy Chief Medical Director from title 5 of the United States Code; establish statutory salaries for these officials in section 4107 of title 38 of the United States Code; impose salary ceilings on their salaries, as well as that of the Associate Deputy Chief Medical Director, to correspond to specific executive schedule levels in title 5—while retaining the Government-wide salary ceiling on all other D.M. & S. salaries, except as provided in special pay—and direct the provision of $13,500 in special pay to these three officials.

(3) Revise the "Physician and Dentist Schedule" in section 4107 of title 38 to codify the 5-percent comparability pay increase to Public Law 94–82 and Executive Order No. 11883, effective October 12, 1975, as to D.M. & S. personnel.

(4) Require the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to report annually to the relevant committees of Congress on the operation of the special pay program.

(5) Require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Comptroller General, after consultation with the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs and the heads of relevant Federal agencies, to submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, not later than August 31, 1976, separate and independent reports proposing a permanent and coordinated legislative solution to the problem of attracting and retaining the services of qualified phy-

sicians and dentists for careers in the VA, the uniformed services, and other Federal agencies providing health care, require the Comptroller General to prepare a report on the Federal Government's recruitment and retention and pay comparability problems with respect to health care personnel other than physicians and dentists, due March 1, 1977; and require the Chief Medical Director to comment upon the OMB and GAO reports within 120 days of the receipt of these reports by the Congress.

(6) Provide for the inclusion in the title 38 Department of Medicine and Surgery personnel system of physicians' assistants and expanded-duty dental auxiliaries, along with physicians, dentists, and registered nurses, and direct that they be paid under the nurse schedule in section 4107 of title 38.

(7) Remove the prohibition on compensatory time off for VA registered nurses, but only when a nurse who, because of certain overtime work, is entitled to special compensation voluntarily and specifically requests in writing that that compensation take the form of extra time off rather than overtime pay.

Effective Date: Pay provisions, October 12, 1975, other provisions first pay period following thirty days after enactment.

FIRST YEAR ESTIMATED COST: $55,788,000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–339.
July 9, 1975: Without amendment.

SENATE REPORT No. 94–325.
July 23, 1975: With amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
July 21: H.R. 8240 considered and passed House by a yea and nay vote of 382 yeas to 3 nays.
August 1: Senate considered and passed H.R. 8240, after amending to include all provisions of S. 1711, as reported.
Oct. 8: House concurred with amendment in the Senate amendment to H.R. 8240.
Oct. 9: Senate agreed to House amendment to Senate amendment, cleared for White House.

APPROVED: October 22, 1975.

Public Law 94-169 ***(H.R. 10355)*—Veterans and Survivors Pension Adjustment Act of 1975:** Contains the following provisions:

(1) Increases by approximately 8 percent the monthly rates for veterans under the current pension program, including the housebound and aid and attendance rates, and increases the maximum annual income limitations by $300. Rates are to apply only for the period January 1, 1976 through September 30, 1976.

(2) Increases widows' monthly pension rates by approximately 8 percent, and increases their maximum annual income limitations by $300. Increases the rate payable for each child in excess of one (where a widow receives pension) from $20 to $22 per month.

(3) Increases the monthly pension rate for a surviving child where there is no widow entitled to payment from $49 to $53, and the rate for each additional child from $20 to $22, and increases a child's unearned annual income limitation from $2,400 to $2,700.

(4) Increases from $2,600 to $2,900 and from $3,900 to $4,200 the applicable maximum income limitations governing payment of pension under the pension program in effect on June 30, 1960.

(5) Increases by approximately 8 percent the monthly dependency and idemnity compensation payable to eligible surviving parents of persons who died of service-connected causes, and increases the applicable maximum income limitations governing such payment by $300.

(6) Increases the aid and attendance allowance payable to dependent parents receiving dependency and indemnity compensation or death compensation, as well as that for eligible widows receiving death compensation, and to eligible widows on the pension rolls, from $64 to $69.

Examples of the new rates of pension and DIC follow:

Annual income not over	Pension[1]				Dependency and Indemnity Compensation		
	Veteran alone	Veteran and 1 dependent	Widow alone	Widow with 1 dependent	1 parent	2 parents not together	2 parents together
$300	$173		$117				
$400	170		116				
$500	167	$186	115				
$600	163	184	114				
$700	159	182	111	$139			
$800	154	179	108	138	$133	$93	
$900	149	176	105	137	130	91	
$1,000	144	173	101	136	127	89	$90
$1,100	139	170	97	135	123	87	88
$1,200	134	167	93	133	119	83	86
$1,300	128	164	89	131	114	79	84
$1,400	122	160	85	129	109	75	82
$1,500	116	156	81	127	104	71	80
$1,600	110	152	76	125	98	67	78
$1,700	104	148	71	123	92	62	76
$1,800	97	144	66	121	84	57	74
$1,900	90	140	61	118	76	52	72
$2,000	83	136	56	115	68	47	70
$2,100	75	132	51	112	60	42	68
$2,200	67	128	46	109	52	37	66
$2,300	59	124	41	106	44	32	64
$2,400	51	120	36	103	36	27	61
$2,500	43	116	31	100	28	21	58
$2,600	35	112	26	97	20	15	55
$2,700	27	108	21	94	12	9	52
$2,800	19	104	15	90	5	5	49
$2,900	11	99	9	86	5	5	46
$3,000	5	94	5	82	5	5	43
$3,100	5	89	5	78	5	5	40
$3,200	5	84	5	74	5	5	37
$3,300	5	78	5	70	5	5	34
$3,400		72		66			30
$3,500		66		62			26
$3,600		60		57			22
$3,700		54		53			18
$3,800		48		53			14
$3,900		40		53			10
$4,000		32		53			6
$4,100		24		53			5
$4,200		16		53			5
$4,300		8		53			5
$4,400		5		53			5
$4,500		5		53			5

[1] Veterans housebound allowance increased from $49 to $53 per month and aid and attendance increased from $123 to 133.

Effective date: January 1, 1976.

ESTIMATED COST (JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1976): $150.1 million.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: Oct. 30, 1975: HOUSE REPORT NO. 94–601, without amendment.
Dec. 16, 1975: SENATE REPORT NO. 94–568, with amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Nov. 4: Considered and passed House on a yea and nay vote of 400 yeas and 0 nays.
Dec. 17: Considered and passed Senate, with amendment.
Dec. 18: House agreed to Senate amendment.

Approved: December 23, 1975.

Public Law 94–246 *(H.R. 4034)*—Naming of Veterans' Administration Hospital at Loma Linda, Calif., for Jerry L. Pettis:

Designates the Veterans' Administration hospital in Loma Linda, Calif., as the "Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans' Hospital" and authorizes the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to provide such memorial at the hospital as he may deem suitable to preserve the remembrance of the late Jerry L. Pettis, former Member of the United States House of Representatives.

Effective Date: March 25, 1976.

FIRST YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: None.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–486, without amendment, September 18, 1975.

SENATE REPORT No. 94–693, without amendment, March 11, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Oct. 6: Considered and passed House.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
Mar. 15: Considered and passed Senate.

Approved: March 25, 1976.

Public Law 94–256 *(H.R. 8507)*—American Battle Monuments Commission Per Diem:

Provides per diem rates in lieu of subsistence for members of the American Battle Monuments Commission when in travel status, similar to rates established for members of the uniformed services under section 405 of title 37, United States Code, as specified in tab F of the Joint Travel Regulations for Uniformed Services.

Effective Date: Date of enactment.

FIRST YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: $1,900.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–600, without amendment, October 30, 1975.

SENATE REPORT No. 94–695, with amendment, March 11, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Nov. 4: Considered and passed House under a suspension of the rules.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
Mar. 15: Considered and passed Senate, with amendment.
Mar. 18: House agreed to Senate amendment.

Approved: April 1, 1976.

Public Law 94–321 *(H.R. 10268)*—Release of Names and Addresses of Present and Former Personnel of the Armed Services by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs:

H.R. 10268 as amended in the Senate would:

(1) Make technical, stylistic, and conforming modifications in existing section 3301 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) Limit the Administrator's broad authority under existing section 3301(8) (subsection (g), as revised by the bill) to release information, statistics, or reports in the possession of the VA by prohibiting the release, under this provision, of information the release of which is specifically limited or otherwise provided for in other subsections of section 3301, as amended.

(3) Specifically authorize the release of patient names or addresses to any criminal or civil law enforcement governmental agency or instrumentality charged under applicable law with the protection of the public health or safety if a qualified representative of such agency or instrumentality has made a written request that such names or addresses be provided for a purpose authorized by applicable Federal, State, or local law. Under this specific statutory authority, the Administrator could report the names or addresses of patients with communicable or environmentally related diseases to State or local public health authorities; could cooperate with State or local law enforcement agencies in

reporting on patients whose injuries or disabilities suggest potential criminal liability; and could comply with State or local laws that require the names of patients treated for certain diseases or disabilities to be reported to departments or registries of motor vehicles. At present, the VA's official policy, under its interpretation of existing law, is not to cooperate with State or local public health or law enforcement agencies in any of the circumstances above.

(4) Require that any disclosure of information under section 3301 be made in accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a).

(5) Increase the fines for knowing and willful violations of the conditions under which patient names or addresses may be released or used, and subject violators to criminal liability. Current law prescribes fines of up to $500 for a first offense, and $5,000 for subsequent offenses. Under the Committee bill, these maximum fines would be increased to $5,000 and $20,000, respectively.

(6) Make the clarifying amendments as to release of names or addresses effective as of October 24, 1972 (except for increases in criminal penalties), the date of enactment of Public Law 92–540.

Effective date: The amendments with respect to the release of names or addresses, or both, are effective as of October 24, 1974. Increases in criminal penalties are effective on the date of enactment.

FIRST YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: None.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: December 10, 1975: HOUSE REPORT NO. 94–704, with amendment.
May 17, 1976: SENATE REPORT NO. 94–892, with amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Dec. 15: Considered and passed House.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
June 2: Considered and passed Senate, with committee amendment.
June 16: House agreed to Senate amendments, cleared for the President.
June 29: Approved by the President.

Public Law 94–321 *(S. 2529)*—Veterans' Housing Amendments Act of 1976: Contains the following provisions:

(1) Increases the maximum Veterans' Administration's guaranty for mobile home loans from 30 to 50 percent.

(2) Makes permanent the Direct Loan Revolving Fund.

(3) Extends eligibility for housing benefits to veterans who served exclusively between World War II and the Korean conflict following July 25, 1947, but prior to June 25, 1950.

(4) Establishes a single standard for all direct home loan areas in the maximum amount of $33,000.

(5) Makes technical amendments to correct grammatical errors and remove various unnecessary gender references in title 38.

(6) Preempts, under certain conditions, State constitutional usury provisions which limit interest rates chargeable on FHA and VA mortgages by a certain class of lenders but which do not impose such rate limits on mortgages made by another class of lenders. At present, this section would apply only to California. The California Legislature, on April 16, 1975, unanimously passed Senate Joint Resolution No. 12 petitioning the U.S.

Congress to provide relief from the State usury limitations as applied to FHA/VA mortgages.

Effective date: Sections 2 and 3 shall become effective on October 1, 1976. Section 5 shall become effective on July 1, 1976. All other sections shall become effective on the date of enactment.

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL FIRST YEAR COST: Veterans' Administration estimates no increase in general operating expenses, but an outlay from Loan Guaranty and Direct Loan Revolving Funds of approximately $4.7 million in fiscal year 1977. Congressional Budget Office estimates 1977 cost at $2,192,000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: May 11, 1976: SENATE REPORT NO. 94–804, on S. 2529, with amendment.
May 13, 1976: HOUSE REPORT NO. 94–1129, on H.R. 13724, without amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976)
May 13: Senate considered and passed S. 2529, with committee amendment.
May 18: House considered and passed H.R. 13724 on a yea and nay vote of 386 yeas and 2 nays. Subsequently S. 2529 was passed in lieu, after being amended to contain the title and language of H.R. 13724.
June 11: Senate considered and passed S. 2529, with substitute amendment.
June 16: House concurred in Senate amendments, cleared for White House.

Approved: June 30, 1976.

Public Law 94–417 (H.R. 10394)—Care of Veterans in State Homes:

Increases the amounts paid by the Veterans' Administration to States for the care and treatment of eligible veterans receiving such care in State homes, from the current $4.50 per diem to $5.50 for domiciliary care; from $6.00 to $10.50 for nursing home care; and from $10.00 to $11.50 for hospital care. Expands the eligibility requirement of veterans for whom reimbursement payments may be made to the States by extending eligibility to any veteran eligible for care in a VA facility. Current law restricts eligibility to wartime veterans or to those whose service occurred after January 31, 1955.

Provides a lump-sum payment to State homes equal to the difference between the amount of reimbursement they have actually received from the Federal Government since January 1, 1976, and the amount they would have received had the new, higher rates of reimbursement been in effect for payments made after that date. The lump-sum payment will be added to the first payment in the new fiscal year.

Effective date: October 1, 1976 for per diem rates, date of enactment for other provisions.

FISCAL YEAR 1977 COST: $18.7 million.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–705, without amendment, December 10, 1975.
SENATE REPORT No. 94–1164, with amendment, August 25, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Dec. 15: Considered and passed House under suspension of the rules.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
Aug. 30: Passed Senate with amendment by unanimous consent.
Sept. 9: House unanimously concurred in Senate amendment, thereby clearing for the President.
Sept. 21: Approved by the President.

Public Law 94–420 *(H.R. 9811)*—William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans' Hospital, Madison, Wis.:

Proposes to name the Veterans' Administration hospital, Madison, Wis., the "William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans' Hospital," and to authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to provide a suitable memorial at the hospital in remembrance of the late former Chief Medical Director of the Veterans' Administration.

Effective Date: Date of enactment.

FIRST-YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: None.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–949, without amendment, March 25, 1976.

SENATE REPORT No. 94–1163, August 25, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):

Apr. 5: Considered and passed House.
Apr. 6: Referred, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
Aug. 31: Passed Senate with amendment.
Sept. 14: House concurred.
Sept. 23: Approved by President.

Public Law 94–424 *(H.R. 3348)*—Extension of Authority for Exchange of Medical Information:

Provides for a continuation of funding for the exchange of medical information program through fiscal year 1979, at the following level: For fiscal year 1976, $3,500,000; for the interim period July 1 through September 30, 1976, $1,700,000; for each of the fiscal years 1977 through 1979, $4 million. The bill also provides that any proceeds to the Government received for providing medical information to the medical community be credited to the applicable Veterans' Administration medical appropriation. Under current law, VA is authorized to charge a fair and equitable fee for providing medical information. The moneys received for such services go directly to the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

Authorizes that funds appropriated to the Veterans' Administration may, to the extent provided in title 38 or an appropriations act, remain available until expended.

Effective date: Date of enactment.

ESTIMATED COST FY 1977: $4 million.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: June 12, 1975: House Report No. 94–286, with amendment.
May 14, 1976: Senate Report No. 94–891, with amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):

June 16: Considered and passed House under a suspension of the rules.
June 17: Referred, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):

Sept. 13: Passed Senate with amendment and returned to House.
Sept. 16: House concurred with Senate amendment, thereby clearing for the President.
Sept. 28: Signed by the President.

Public Law 94–432 *(H.R. 14298)*—Veterans and Survivors Pension Adjustment Act of 1976: Contains the following provisions:

(1) Makes permanent the "Interim Rate Adjustment" (8 percent) of Public Law 94–169 to permit payment of the present rates after September 30, 1976.

(2) Changes the definition of permanent total disability to permit payment from date of unemployability after age 65 if claim is filed in 1 year as now done for those filing in 1 year of age 65 or of becoming permanently totally disabled before that age.

(3) Provides a 7 percent increase in pension for totally disabled wartime veterans, effective January 1, 1977.

(4) Increases veterans' pension annual income limitation to protect against loss of pension from a 6.5 percent increase in annuity type payments:

$3,300 to $3,540 for a single veteran.
$4,500 to $4,760 for veterans with wife and children.

(5) Increases the present aid and attendance rate for veteran pensioners from $133 to $155.

(6) Increases the disability pension housebound rate by 7 percent from $53 to $57.

(7) Provides for gradual reduction in aid and attendance allowance to reduce 1/6 for each $100 or fraction thereof that annual income exceeds maximum limit but not beyond $500 excess.

(8) Provides a 25 percent added differential for all pension rates for eligible veterans who are 78 years of age or older.

(9) Provides a 7 percent increase in pension for eligible widows.

(10) Increases annual income limitations governing payment of pension to widows to protect against loss of pension from a 6.5 percent increase in annuity type payments:

$3,300 to $3,540 for widows alone.

$4,500 to $4,760 for widows with children.

(11) Increases from $53 to $57 monthly death pension for children where there is no widow.

(12) Increases the annual income limitation governing payment of pension to children from $2,700 to $2,890.

(13) Increases by 7 percent the aid and attendance allowance for widows from $69 to $74.

(14) Increases the annual income limitation governing payment of protected law pension to protect against loss of such pension from a 6.5 percent increase in annuity type income from $2,900 to $3,100 for single veterans and widows without children, and from $4,200 to $4,460 for married veterans and widows where there is a child.

(15) Provides a 7 percent increase in DIC benefits for parents.

(16) Provides increased maximum income limitations to protect against loss of DIC entitlement from a 6.5 percent increase in other annuity type income.

(17) Provides a 7 percent increase in the aid and attendance rate of DIC for parents from $69 to $74.

(18) Increases by 7 percent the aid and attendance allowance for widows receiving death compensation under the old law from $69 to $74.

(19) Revises the rule governing prima facie evidence of dependency of a parent to recognize the Administrator's need to set guidelines recognizing cost-of-living increases.

(20) Requires of other agency heads the furnishing of entitlement information they have to the Administrator on request by a provision the same as that now applying in the case of the Secretary of HEW.

(21) Requires the Administrator of the Veterans' Administration to conduct a study in fiscal year 1977 into current pension programs and recommend such changes and reform as his findings dictate.

Examples of the new rates of pension and DIC follow:

Annual income not over	Pension [1]				Dependency and Indemnity Compensation		
	Veteran alone	Veteran and 1 dependent	Widow alone	Widow with 1 dependent	1 parent	2 parents together	2 parents not together
$0	$185	$199	$125	$149	$142	.....	.....
$100	185	199	125	149	142	.....	.....
$200	185	199	125	149	142	.....	.....
$300	185	199	125	149	142	.....	.....
$400	182	199	124	149	142	.....	.....
$500	179	199	123	149	142	.....	.....
$600	175	197	122	149	142	.....	.....
$700	171	195	119	149	142	.....	.....
$800	166	192	116	148	142	.....	$100
$900	161	189	113	147	139	.....	98
$1,000	155	186	109	146	136	$96	96
$1,100	149	183	105	145	132	94	94
$1,200	143	179	101	143	128	92	90
$1,300	137	175	96	141	123	90	86
$1,400	131	171	91	139	118	88	81
$1,500	125	167	86	137	112	86	76
$1,600	118	163	81	135	106	84	71
$1,700	111	159	76	133	98	82	66
$1,800	104	155	71	130	90	80	61
$1,900	96	151	66	127	82	78	56
$2,000	88	147	61	124	74	76	51
$2,100	80	143	56	121	66	74	46
$2,200	72	139	51	118	58	71	41
$2,300	64	135	46	115	50	68	36
$2,400	56	131	40	112	42	65	30
$2,500	48	126	34	109	34	62	24
$2,600	40	121	28	105	26	59	18
$2,700	32	116	22	101	18	56	12
$2,800	24	111	16	97	10	53	6
$2,900	16	106	10	93	5	50	5
$3,000	8	101	5	89	5	47	5
$3,100	5	96	5	85	5	44	5
$3,200	5	90	5	81	5	40	5
$3,300	5	84	5	77	5	36	5
$3,400	5	78	5	72	5	32	5
$3,500	5	72	5	67	5	28	5
$3,540	5	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....
$3,600	.....	65	.....	62	.....	24	.....
$3,700	.....	58	.....	57	.....	20	.....
$3,800	.....	50	.....	57	.....	16	.....
$3,900	.....	42	.....	57	.....	11	.....
$4,000	.....	34	.....	57	.....	6	.....
$4,100	.....	26	.....	57	.....	5	.....
$4,200	.....	18	.....	57	.....	5	.....
$4,300	.....	10	.....	57	.....	5	.....
$4,400	.....	5	.....	57	.....	5	.....
$4,500	.....	5	.....	57	.....	5	.....
$4,600	.....	5	.....	57	.....	5	.....
$4,700	.....	5	.....	57	.....	5	.....
$4,760	.....	5	.....	57	.....	5	.....

[1] Veterans housebound allowance increased from $53 to $57 per month and aid and attendance increased from $133 to $155.

Effective date: 7 percent rate increases and increase in income limitations, January 1, 1977.

Continue P.L. 94–169 rate increases and other provisions date of enactment.

ESTIMATED COST FISCAL YEAR 1977: $432.1 million.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–1269, without amendment, June 16, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):

June 21: Considered and passed House unanimously.

Aug. 4: Senate passed and amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 2635 and returned to the House.

Sept. 9: House concurred with amendment to the amendment of the Senate and returned the measure to the Senate.

Sept. 20: Senate agreed to the House amendment to the Senate amendment, thus clearing the measure for the White House.

Sept. 30: Signed by the President.

Public Law 94-433 *(H.R. 14290)*—Increased Rates of Compensation and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation for Service-Connected Disabled Veterans and for Certain Surviving Widows and Children:

Provides increases in disability compensation for service-connected veterans by 8 percent. Statutory awards, relating to more serious disabilities, also are increased by 8 percent. Additional amounts for dependents which are paid to veterans rated 50 percent or more disabled also are increased by 8 percent. A new provision would pay increased additional compensation to the disabled veteran rated 50 percent to 100 percent who has a spouse who is a patient in a nursing home or who is so helpless as to need regular aid and attendance. The clothing allowance is increased from $175 to $150.

Dependency and indemnity compensation for widows and children of veterans who died of service-connected disabilities are increased by 8 percent.

The tables which follow outline the amounts of increases for service-connected disabled veterans:

Percentage of Disability or Subsection Under Which Payment is Authorized	Increase	
	From	To
(a) 10 percent	$35	*$38*
(b) 20 percent	65	*70*
(c) 30 percent	98	*106*
(d) 40 percent	134	*145*
(e) 50 percent	188	*203*
(f) 60 percent	236	*255*
(g) 70 percent	280	*302*
(h) 80 percent	324	*350*
(i) 90 percent	364	*393*
(j) 100 percent	655	*707*
Higher statutory awards for certain multiple disabilities:		
(k) (1) Additional monthly payment for anatomical loss or loss of use of, any of these organs: 1 foot, 1 hand, blindness in 1 eye (having light perception only), one or more creative organs, both buttocks, organic aphonia (with constant inability to communicate by speech), deafness of both ears (having absence of air and bone conduction)—for each loss	52	*56*
(2) Limit for veterans receiving payments under (a) to (j) above	814	*879*
(3) Limit for veterans receiving payments under (1) to (n) below	1,139	*1,231*
(l) Anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands, both feet, 1 foot and 1 hand, blindness in both eyes (5/200 visual acuity or less), permanently bedridden or so helpless as to require regular aid and attendance	814	*879*
(m) Anatomical loss or loss of use of two extremities so as to prevent natural elbow or knee action with prosthesis in place, blind in both eyes, either with light perception only or rendering veteran so helpless as to require regular aid and attendance	896	*968*
(n) Anatomical loss of two extremities so near shoulder or hip as to prevent use of prosthesis or anatomical loss of both eyes	1,018	*1,099*
(o) Disability under conditions entitling veteran to two or more of the rates provided in (1) through (n), no condition being considered twice in the determination, or deafness rated at 60 percent or more (impairment of either or both ears service-connected) in combination with total blindness (5/200 visual acuity or less)	1,139	*1,231*
(p) (1) If disabilities exceed requirements of any rates prescribed, Administrator of VA may allow next higher rate or an intermediate rate, but in no case may compensation exceed	1,139	*1,231*
(2) Blindness in both eyes (with 5/200 visual acuity or less) together with (a) bilateral deafness rated at 40 percent or more disabling (impairment of either or both ears service-connected) next higher rate is payable, or (b) service-connected total deafness of one ear next intermediate rate is payable, but in no event may compensation exceed	1,139	*1,231*

(q) [This subsection repealed by Public Law 90–493.]		
(r) If veteran entitled to compensation under (o) or to the maximum rate under (p), and is in need of regular aid and attendance, he shall receive a special allowance of the amount indicated at right for aid and attendance in addition to (o) or (p) rate	489	*528*
(s) Disability rated as total, plus additional disability independently ratable at 60 percent or over, or permanently housebound	732	*791*

In addition to basic compensation rates and/or statutory awards to which the veteran may be entitled, dependency allowances are payable to veterans who are rated at not less than 50 percent disabled. *The rates which follow are those payable to veterans while rated totally disabled.* If the veteran is rated 50, 60, 70, 80, or 90 percent disabled, dependency allowances are payable in an amount bearing the same ratio to the amount specified on the next page as the degree of disability bears to total disability. For example, the veteran who is 50 percent disabled receives 50 percent of the amounts which appear on the next page.

	Increase	
	From	To
If and while veteran is rated totally disabled and—		
(A) has a wife but no child living	$40	*$43*
(B) has a wife and one child living	67	*72*
(C) has a wife and two children living	85	*92*
(D) has a wife and three or more children living	105	*113*
(plus for each living child in excess of three)	19	*21*
(E) has no wife but one child living	26	*28*
(F) has no wife but two children living	45	*49*
(G) has no wife but three or more children living	67	*72*
(plus for each living child in excess of three)	19	*21*
(H) has a mother or father, either or both dependent upon him for support for each parent so dependent	32	*35*
(I) for a spouse who is a patient in a nursing home or who is so helpless as to require regular aid and attendance	none	*78*
(J) for each child who has attained age 18 and who is pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution	61	*66*

The following increases are provided for widows of deceased veterans whose deaths are service-connected and who are receiving dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) payments:

WIDOWS[2][4]

Pay Grade	From	To	Pay Grade	From	To
E–1	$241	*$260*	O–1	$304	*$328*
E–2	248	*268*	O–2	315	*340*
E–3	255	*275*	O–3	337	*364*
E–4	270	*292*	O–4	356	*384*
E–5	278	*300*	O–5	392	*423*
E–6	284	*307*	O–6	441	*476*
E–7	298	*322*	O–7	478	*516*
E–8	315	*340*	O–8	523	*565*
E–9	329[1]	*355*	O–9	562	*607*
W–1	304	*328*	O–10[3]	615[3]	*664*[3]
W–2	316	*341*			
W–3	326	*352*			
W–4	344	*372*			

[1] If the veteran served as sergeant major of the Army, senior enlisted advisor of the Navy, chief master sergeant of the Air Force, sergeant major of the Marine Corps or master chief petty officer of the Coast Guard, the widow's rate is increased from $354 to *$382*.

[2] If the veteran served as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Chief of Staff of the Army, Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, or Commandant of the Marine Corps, the widow's rate is increased from $660 to *$712*.

[3] If there is a widow with one or more children of the deceased veterans below the age of 18, the DIC monthly rate for the widow is increased by $31 for each such child.

[4] The widow's aid and attendance rate is increased from $72 to *$78*. (Widows or dependent parents who receive death compensation and meet qualifications for the aid and attendance allowance also receive this increase.)

When there is no widow receiving dependency and indemnity compensation, payment is made in equal shares to the children of the deceased veteran. These rates are increased as follows:

(1) One child, from $121 to $131.

(2) Two children, from $175 to $189.

(3) Three children, from $225 to $243.

(4) More than three children, from $225 plus $45 for each child in excess of three to $243 plus $49 for each child in excess of three.

The additional payment to a child who has attained the age of 18 and who became permanently incapable of self-support while under such age is increased from $72 to $78.

If DIC is paid to a widow and there is a child of her deceased husband who has attained the age of 18 and who became permanently incapable of self-support while under such age, DIC is also payable to each such child, concurrently with the DIC payment to the widow, in the amount of $121. This additional payment is increased to $131.

If DIC is payable to a widow and there is a child of her deceased husband who has attained the age of 18 but has not attained the age of 23 and is pursuing a course of instruction at an educational institution approved under the veterans' education programs, DIC is paid to each such child, concurrently with the DIC payment to the widow, in the amount of $62. This additional payment is increased to $67.

The bill would require the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to conduct a scientific study to determine if there is a causal relationship between the amputation of an extremity and the subsequent development of cardiovascular disorders.

A provision includes "annulment" as a form of dissolution of a marriage in application of the so-called "end-of-the-year" rule in establishing the effective date of a reduction or discontinuance of compensation, dependency and indemnity compensation, or pension as a result of such action.

Provides for a study into the DIC program as to adequacy with particular attention to the question of whether benefit payments should be related to the rank of the deceased serviceman.

Provides for an increase in mortgage protection life insurance now available for certain severely disabled veterans from $30,000 to $40,000.

Authorizes the Veterans' Administration to pay the cost of transporting the remains of deceased, service-disabled veterans to a national cemetery for burial.

Extends eligibility for Veterans' Administration assistance in the purchase of automobiles and necessary special adaptive equipment to certain disabled veterans who served from September 16, 1940. The benefit has been limited to those with service in World War II (December 7, 1941) or thereafter.

Effective Date: October 1, 1976.

ESTIMATED COST FISCAL YEAR 1977: $388.7 million.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: June 15, 1976, House Report No. 94–1271.
September 9, 1976, Senate Report No. 94–1226.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
June 21: Considered and passed by House unanimously.
Sept. 20: Passed Senate with amendment.
Sept. 21: House concurred with Senate amendment thereby clearing for the President.
Sept. 30: Signed by the President.

Public Law 94-491 *(H.R. 71)*—Hospital and Medical Care for Certain Members of Armed Forces of Nations Allied With the United States in World Wars I and II:

Extends entitlement to hospital and medical care to any person who served during World War I or World War II as a member of any Armed Forces of the Governments of Czechoslovakia or Poland, and participated while so serving in armed conflict with an enemy of the United States, and who has been a citizen of the United States for at least 10 years. Benefits would not be available to a person who is entitled to payment for equivalent care under a program established for the foreign government for persons who served in its armed forces during the subject periods of war.

Effective Date: Date of enactment.

FIRST YEAR COST: $5 million.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94-337, without amendment, July 9, 1975.

SENATE REPORT No. 94-[illegible], with amendment, March 11, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
July 21: Passed House under suspension of rules.
July 22: Referred, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
Sept. 10: Passed Senate with amendment.
Sept. 14: House disagreed with Senate amendment and returned the bill to the Senate.
Oct. 1: Senate receded from its amendment, clearing the bill for the President.
Oct. 14: Signed by the President.

Public Law 94-502 *(S. 969 and H.R. 9576)*—Veterans' Education and Employment Assistance Act of 1976: Contains the following provisions:

(1) Increases by 8 percent educational assistance allowances under all veterans' education programs except flight training.

(2) Establishes December 31, 1976 as the termination date for accrual of entitlement to veterans' educational assistance benefits under chapter 34 of title 38, United States Code and December 31, 1989 as the date when the program will be ended.

(3) Establishes a Post-Vietnam Era contributory educational assistance program for those entering the Armed Forces on or after January 1, 1977.

(4) Terminates the eligibility under the predischarge education program (PREP) and allows no enrollment or reenrollment on or after October 31, 1976, except those individuals participating in the Post-Vietnam Era contributory educational assistance program.

(5) Terminates prepay education allowances and limits advance payments to those requested by veterans after May 31, 1977.

(6) Increases from 36 months to 45 months the maximum educational benefits for eligible veterans, survivors, and dependents.

(7) Terminates further accrual of 5-point entitlement to veterans preference in Federal employment.

(8) Provides for the establishment of a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment, and contains other provisions to assure veterans receive satisfactory employment assistance.

(9) Increases by 8 percent administrative allowance paid to State approving agencies, and increases reporting fees to institutions by $2.

(10) Eliminates the June 30, 1975 termination date for seriously disabled service connected veterans who, because of increased disabilities, are still in need of vocational rehabilitation.

(11) Codifies existing regulations limiting enrollment of veterans and dependents in independent study programs other than those leading to a standard college degree, and limits the payment for such courses to less than half-time basis.

(12) Extends to all courses of education the requirement that no more than 85 percent of students enrolled be in receipt of Veterans' Administration benefits or other Federal grants, except disadvantaged and farm coop with provision for Administrator to waive.

(13) Codifies the definition of "unsatisfactory progress" to include situations in which the veteran or dependent is not progressing at a rate permitting graduation within the normal period of time for completion of studies.

(14) Reduces from 30 to 27 the number of clock hours required to qualify for payment at the full time rate in certain vocational objective courses, and from 25 to 22 per week net of instruction in which theoretical or classroom instruction predominates.

(15) Extends 2 years of operation requirement to courses offered by certain branches or extensions of educational institutions.

(16) Limits the enrollment in courses by institutions under contract with the Department of Defense to active duty military personnel and their dependents and approval by the State Approving Agency in which State the program is offered.

(17) Prohibits payment of veterans' benefits for a program of education by correspondence when the normal completion time is less than 6 months.

(18) Prohibits veterans enrolling in any course offered by an institution utilizing certain enrollment practices and requires advertising used during the preceding 12-month period be retained for VA review.

(19) Requires records of students be made available for VA inspection when necessary.

(20) Prohibits the assignment of educational assistance allowance benefits.

(21) Permits a veteran student to complete a work-study agreement if the veteran ceases to be a full-time student.

(22) Increases from $600 to $1,500 the maximum education loan for eligible veterans, survivors and dependents.

(23) Extends the period of eligibility of educational benefits for certain children from 5 to 8 years.

(24) Permits service-connected disabled veterans to be trained in Federal agencies under the vocational rehabilitation program.

(25) Codifies regulatory definitions of the terms "institutions of higher learning" and "standard college degree."

(26) Requires the Administrator to conduct a study into the effectiveness of vocational objective courses with particular emphasis on the requirement that 50 percent of the graduates be placed in the field for which training was given.

(27) Extends the requirement of 2-year operation before approval to certain branches or extensions of institutions.

Effective Date: Rate increases and the increase to 45 months entitlement effective October 1, 1976. Other provisions effective on date of enactment or December 1, 1976.

FIRST YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: $495.4 million, fiscal year 1977.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–487 (H.R. 9576), Sept. 18, 1975.

SENATE REPORT No. 94–1243 (S. 969), Sept. 16, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Oct. 6: House considered and passed H.R. 9576.
Oct. 7: Referred, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
Oct. 1: Senate passed S. 969 in lieu of H.R. 9576 and sent to the House.
Oct. 1: House passed S. 969 with amendments and returned to the Senate.
Oct. 1: Senate concurred in House amendments, clearing the measure for the President.
Oct. 15: Signed by the President.

Public Law 94–581 *(H.R. 2735 and S. 2908)*— Veterans' Omnibus Health Care Act of 1976: Contains the following provisions:

1. Establishes a new policy for travel reimbursement to inpatient and outpatient Veterans' Administration facilities for veterans. Non-service-connected veterans will now be required to sign an oath of inability to pay to receive the benefit. Beneficiaries will also be eligible for reimbursement for the use of a car only if it is deemed medically inadvisable to use public transportation or if veterans' facilities are inaccessible by public transportation.

2. Clarifies the authority of the Administrator to furnish to veterans for their disability such home health services that are found to be necessary or appropriate for the effective and economical treatment of such disability, including such home improvements and structural alterations as are necessary to assure the continuation of treatment for such disability or to provide access to the home or to essential sanitary facilities. The cost for such services which may be provided at VA expense shall not exceed $2,500 for service-connected veterans and $600 for non-service-connected veterans.

3. Authorizes consultation, professional counseling and mental health services as are necessary in connection with the treatment and training of a family member of a veteran with a service-connected disability, and, at the discretion of the Administrator, of the non-service-connected disability of a veteran, where such services were initiated during the veteran's hospitalization and where the provision of such services on an outpatient basis is essential to permit the discharge of the veteran from the hospital.

4. Authorizes outpatient dental care and treatment for a non-service-connected condition or disability of a veteran for which treatment was begun during a period of hospitalization, and where such dental care and treatment is reasonably necessary to complete such treatment.

5. Limits medical services provided on a fee-basis to those which can be provided "within the limits of VA facilities." Currently, such benefits are not so limited.

6. Limits the availability of medical services on an outpatient or ambulatory basis where such will obviate the need of hospital admission. Such services could be provided only "to the extent that VA facilities are available." This, in effect, provides some additional priority in the type of care or class of beneficiaries which can be treated, making the "obviate" type care dependent upon facilities being available, and requiring that the prehospital care and posthospital care needs of patients be taken care of first.

7. Provides that posthospital care reasonably necessary to complete treatment incident to such hospitalization will be limited to 12 months, unless the Administrator determines that a longer period is required for the disability.

8. Authorizes the Administrator to provide medical services for any condition to any veteran who has a service-connected disability rated 50 percent or more. Currently, this benefit is available to a veteran whose service-connected disability is rated at 80 percent or more.

9. Establishes a system of priorities (stressing service-connected disabilities) among veterans seeking outpatient services. Unless compelling medical reasons require such care be provided more expeditiously, the following priority shall be given to a veteran—

(a) for his service-connected condition;

(b) who has a service-connected disability rated at least 50 percent;

(c) who has a service-connected disability, and

(d) who is eligible for such benefits by reason of need for aid and attendance or being permanently housebound.

10. Broadens the eligibility of survivors of a deceased veteran for contract medical benefits under CHAMPVA by extending medical benefits to the survivors of any veteran, who at the time of death, was suffering from a permanent total disability resulting from a service-connected disability.

11. Authorizes the Administrator, in providing rehabilitative services, to enter into contractual arrangements with private industry and nonprofit entities to provide therapeutic work for pay for patients and members of VA medical facilities. The Administrator is required to pay all participants at rates not less than those specified in the Fair Labor Standards Act.

12. Authorizes the transfer of hospital patients to intermediate care facilities. Under current law, hospital patients may only be transferred to nursing care facilities.

13. Authorizes the Administrator to prescribe standards for care provided in State veteran home facilities and to suspend reimbursement to any such facilities which fails to meet those standards.

14. Authorizes the Administrator to conduct immunization programs for veterans as part of national immunization programs conducted by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Veterans receiving care in a VA facility may be immunized on a voluntary basis as part of such a national program.

15. Authorizes the Administrator to obtain, sell, assign, transfer, and convey automobiles needed for special driver training courses for seriously disabled veterans.

16. Makes podiatrists and optometrists part of the Department of Medicine and Surgery pay and personnel system under title 38, United States Code, thus removing such positions from civil service requirements.

17. Promotes the protection of patient rights in VA health care facilities by directing the Administrator to prescribe regulations establishing procedures to insure that all medical and prosthetic research and, to the maximum extent practicable, all patient care furnished under title 38 be carried out only with the full and informed consent of the patient or an appropriate representative.

18. Extends until September 30, 1977, the special pay program for VA physicians and dentists authorized by Public Law 94–123, the Veterans' Administration Physician and Dentist Pay Comparability Act of 1975.

19. Requires the VA to operate a minimum of 10,000 nursing home care beds by fiscal year 1980. Under current law the minimum requirement is 8,000 beds.

20. Permits direct reimbursement of the VA by the Social Security Administration for care provided to medicare-eligible persons in a VA facility pursuant to a sharing agreement. This provision would not apply to veterans eligible for such medical care in a VA facility.

21. Authorizes the Administrator to enter into long-term leasing agreements with existing medical and other health professions schools with which VA medical facilities are affiliated. Under current law such leasing agreements are limited to 3 years.

22. Requires the Chief Medical Director to prepare a study to determine how to accommodate the growing number of elderly veterans in the VA health care system, and

requires the Administrator to notify individuals of any new or expanded eligibility for health care benefits to which such individuals are entitled as a result of this act.

Effective date: Date of enactment.

FIRST-YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: $43,230,000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 74–703, with amendment, December 10, 1975.

SENATE REPORT No. 94–1206, with amendment, September 3, 1976.

SENATE REPORT No. 94–1206, Part 2, September 9, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Dec. 15, 1975: Considered and passed House.
Dec. 16, 1975: Referred, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
Sept. 16, 1976: Passed Senate, as amended.
Sept. 29, 1976: House considered and passed with an amendment in the nature of a substitute to the Senate amendment.
Oct. 1, 1976: Senate agreed to House amendments, thus clearing for the President.
Oct. 21, 1976: Signed by the President.

BILLS PASSED BY HOUSE AND PENDING IN SENATE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS AT TIME OF ADJOURNMENT

H.R. 1547—Medical Benefits For Survivors of Certain Veterans:

Provides medical care for the widow or child of a veteran who, at the time of death, had a total disability, permanent in nature, resulting from a service-connected disability, even though death does not result from that disability. Such care is presently provided if the veteran has a total disability, permanent in nature, resulting from a service-connected disability, or for survivors of veterans who die as a result of a service-connected disability.

Effective date: Date of enactment.

FIRST YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: Approximately $56,984.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: December 10, 1975: HOUSE REPORT NO. 94–702, without amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Dec. 15: Considered and passed House.

H.R. 3350—Technical Amendments to Title 38, United States Code:

As indicated in its title, the subject bill would make technical and conforming amendments to title 38, United States Code. Eighteen years ago, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs after extensive committee staff work, reported legislation which incorporated into a single act the subject matter of the extensive body of existing legislation authorizing and governing payment of compensation for service-connected disability or death to persons who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during a period of war, armed conflict, or peacetime service, and to their widows, children, and dependent parents. It also provided for consolidation of laws relating to pension, hospitalization, medical and domiciliary care, and burial benefits, as well as all the administrative provisons relating to these benefits. Subsequently, the law was placed into codified form through cooperation with the Committee on the Judiciary and its Subcommittee on Revision of Law, so that for the first time all laws relating to veterans were enacted and became known as title 38, United States Code.

The present bill is not intended to make substantive changes in existing law, but is intended to accomplish the general objective of correcting certain errors of a nonsubstantive character which have accumulated over the years.

Effective Date: Date of enactment.

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL COST: None.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: July 9, 1975: House Report No. 94–338, with amendments.

H.R. 8891—Establishment of National Cemeteries in California and Massachusetts:

As reported, this legislation directs the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to establish within the National Cemetery System national cemeteries at March Air Force Base near Riverside, Calif., and Otis Air Force Base in Massachusetts.

The Secretary of the Air Force, in the case of the March Air Force Base site, is directed to transfer jurisdiction over real property consisting of 680 acres, more or less, to the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, and the Administrator and the Secretary of the Air Force are directed to enter into mutually agreeable arrangements for possible future use of an additional 562 acres, adjacent to the property to be transferred for future expansion of the cemetery when required. The sum of $2,150,000 is authorized to be appropriate for these purposes.

In the case of the Otis Air Force Base site in Massachusetts, the Administrator is directed to accept jurisdiction over real property consisting of 750 acres, more or less, to be transferred to him by the State of Massachusetts for the purpose of establishing a national cemetery, and the sum of $2,150,000 is authorized to be appropriated for this purpose.

Effective Date: Date of enactment.

FIRST YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: $4,300,000 authorized for expenditure.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–602, with amendment, October 30, 1975.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):
Nov. 4: Considered and passed House under a suspension of the rules.

H.R. 11140—Establishing a National Cemetery at Quantico, Va.:

Proposes to require that the Secretary of the Navy transfer to the Veterans' Administration real property located at the Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Va., consisting of approximately 620 acres; that the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs establish a national cemetery at that location, to be administered and maintained within the National Cemetery System; and authorizes the appropriation of the sum of $2,150,000 to carry out the purposes of the legislation.

Effective Date: Date of enactment.

FIRST-YEAR ADDITIONAL COST: $1.4 million.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–950, with technical amendment, March 25, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
Apr. 5: Considered and passed House under suspension of rules, 358 yeas and 8 nays.
Apr. 6: Referred, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 12735—Cemetery Plot Allowance Paid to States in Some Cases:

Requires the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to pay a $150 allowance to any State or any agency or political subdivision of a State in reimbursement for expenses incurred in the burial of each veteran in any cemetery owned by such State, agency or political subdivision of a State, if the cemetery or section thereof is used solely for the interment of veterans.

Effective Date: October 1, 1976.

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL FIRST YEAR COST: Veterans' Administration estimates additional cost of $5 million per year for the next 5 years. The Committee disagrees, and estimates no significant additional expenditure.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: May 13, 1976: HOUSE REPORT NO. 94–1128, without amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
May 18: Considered and passed House under a suspension of the rules.
May 19: Referred Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 12896—Naming of Veterans' Administration Facility, Tampa, Fla.:

Designates the Veterans' Administration hospital located at 13000 North Thirtieth Street, Tampa, Fla., the "James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital".

Effective Date: January 4, 1977.

ESTIMATED COST: No additional expense to the Federal Government.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–1698, with amendments, Sept. 27, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 1976):
Sept. 29, 1976: Considered and passed House unanimously.
Oct. 1, 1976: Referred Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 14469—Veterans' Administration Physicians and Dentists Comparability Pay Act Extension:

Public Law 94–123 (H.R. 8240) was enacted on October 22, 1975, to provide special and incentive pay to certain physicians and dentists in the Department of Medicine and Surgery of the Veterans' Administration.

The legislation was enacted in order to assist the Veterans' Administration in their efforts to recruit and retain physicians and dentists who serve in the Department of Medicine and Surgery. Public Law 94–123 is due to expire on October 11, 1976.

H.R. 14469 would simply extend the authority through September 30, 1977.

Note: Provisions of H.R. 14469 are contained in Public Law 94–581.

FISCAL YEAR 1977 COST: $3,400,000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–1372.
July 28, 1976: Without amendment.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
August 2: H.R. 14469 considered and passed House by a yea and nay vote of 379 yeas to 1 nay.

H.R. 15671—Naming of Veterans' Administration Facility, Bedford, Mass.:

Designates the Veterans' Administration hospital located at 200 Springs Road, Bedford, Mass., the "Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans' Hospital."

Effective Date: November 11, 1976.

ESTIMATED COST: No additional expense to the Federal Government.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: HOUSE REPORT No. 94–1700, without amendment, Sept. 27, 1976.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):
Sept. 29, 1976: Considered and passed House unanimously.
Oct. 1, 1976: Referred Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

FIRST YEAR ADDITIONAL COST TO BE INCURRED AS A RESULT OF ENACTMENT OF BILLS REPORTED FROM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS IN THE 94TH CONGRESS, WITH EFFECTIVE DATE OF LAWS ENACTED AND PAGE REFERENCE

Law Number	*Effective Date*	*Additional Cost*	*Page Number*
P.L. 94–71	Aug. 1, 1975	$490, 700, 000	1–4
P.L. 94–123	See Page 4	55, 788, 000	4, 5
P.L. 94–169	Jan. 1, 1976	[1] 150, 100, 000	5, 6
P.L. 94–246	Mar. 26, 1976	None	6, 7
P.L. 94–256	Apr. 1, 1976	1, 900	7
P.L. 94–321	See Page 8	None	7, 8
P.L. 94–324	See Page 9	4, 700, 000	8, 9
P.L. 94–417	See Page 9	18, 700, 000	9
P.L. 94–420	Sept. 23, 1976	None	9, 10
P.L. 94–424	Sept. 28, 1976	4, 000, 000	10
P.L. 94–432	See Page 12	432, 100, 000	10–12
P.L. 94–433	Oct. 1, 1976	388, 700, 000	13–15
P.L. 94–491	Oct. 14, 1976	5, 000, 000	16
P.L. 94–502	See Page 17	495, 400, 000	16, 17
P.L. 94–581	Oct. 21, 1976	43, 230, 000	18–20
Total Additional First Year Cost to be Incurred as a Result of Enactment of Public Laws, Ninety-fourth Congress		$2, 088, 419, 900	

[1] Nine-month period Jan. 1, 1976 through Sept. 30, 1976.

DIGEST TO FINAL ACTION ON BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS WITH INDEX TO PAGE REFERENCE IN SUMMARY

BILL NUMBER	Status		PAGE NUMBER
	In Senate Committee	Public Law	
S. 969		94–502	16, 17
S. 2529		94–324	8, 9
H.R. 71		94–491	16
H.R. 1547	X		20
H.R. 2735 (S. 2908)		94–581	18–20
H.R. 3348		94–424	10
H.R. 3350	X		20
H.R. 4034		94–246	6, 7
H.R. 7767		94–71	1–4
H.R. 8240		94–123	4, 5
H.R. 8507		94–256	7
H.R. 8891	X		21
H.R. 9576 (S. 969)	X		16, 17
H.R. 9811		94–420	9, 10
H.R. 10268		94–321	7, 8
H.R. 10355		94–169	5, 6
H.R. 10394		94–417	9
H.R. 11140	X		21
H.R. 12735	X		21
H.R. 12806	X		22
H.R. 13724 (S. 2529)		94–324	8, 9
H.R. 14258		94–432	10–12
H.R. 14299		94–433	13–15
H.R. 14469	X		22
H.R. 15671	X		22

VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES EXPENDITURES FROM APPROPRIATED FUNDS, BY WAR AND PURPOSE THROUGH JUNE 30, 1976*

(Thousands of Dollars)

	All Wars	Vietnam Era	Korean Conflict	World War II	World War I	Spanish-American War [d]	Other Wars and Regular Establishment
TOTAL	[a] $258,224,503	$26,907,289	$21,597,320	[b] $120,259,123	[c] $60,368,486	[d] $5,708,150	$23,384,135
Cash Benefits	201,449,651	23,553,664	14,981,396	90,348,173	47,542,439	5,199,044	19,824,935
Adjusted service and dependent pay	56,069				56,069		
Bonus [e]	3,820,079				3,820,079		
Compensation and pension—Total	134,722,788	5,038,635	8,699,243	61,298,305	40,173,048	5,168,676	14,345,421
Compensation		4,898,567	7,224,702	47,800,284	12,812,102		
Veterans		3,965,542	5,853,892	38,971,936	9,860,943		
Dependents		933,025	1,370,810	8,828,348	2,951,159		
Pension		140,068	1,474,541	13,498,083	27,360,945		
Veterans		60,729	637,892	7,819,728	18,674,624		
Dependents		79,339	836,649	5,678,355	8,686,022		
Insurance and indemnity	7,157,952	48,495	401,849	4,809,287	1,890,318		8,003
Vocational rehabilitation	3,022,798	40,147	202,903	1,638,927	644,865		131,956
Education and training	40,392,876	16,204,177	4,685,007	15,080,316	22,728	1,671	4,398,977
Readjustment allowance	3,804,875			3,804,875			
Loan guaranty	6,323,417	1,704,636	894,332	2,841,166			883,283
Autos, invalid lifts, etc	193,097	67,433	7,588	94,119	13,718	109	11,030
Homes for paraplegics, incl. Mtge. Life Insurance	184,322	59,254	16,025	78,170	10,753		20,120
Statutory burial	1,455,863	22,910	71,395	683,237	624,977	29,181	24,163
Military and naval family allowance	282,083				282,083		
Clothing allowance	32,532	3,977	3,054	19,711	3,801	7	1,982
Services rendered [f]	45,745,015	2,466,765	5,532,475	23,235,910	11,069,782	446,895	2,993,188
Capital additions and improvements	2,508,872	73,230	260,342	1,849,301	254,472	10,538	60,990
Administration costs	8,520,965	313,632	823,107	4,825,739	1,501,795	51,673	505,019

* Estimated and subject to revision.

[a] Excludes $479,777,696 in premiums and othe collections credited to insurance appropriations.

[b] Excludes $22,192,224 in premiums and other collections credited to insurance appropriations.

[c] Excludes $457,585,472 in premiums and other collections credited to insurance appropriations.

[d] Includes Boxer Rebellion and Philippine Insurrection.

[e] Adjusted Service Certificate Fund (World War I bonus) which is a trust fund established by appropriation.

[f] Includes expenditures for the medical, hospital and domiciliary care programs and from the Direct Loan Revolving Fund.

NOTE: Expenditures reflect the net amount of vouchers approved for payment rather than the amount of checks issued and differ from amounts reported to the Office of Management and Budget and Treasury Department in accordance with Budget-Treasury Regulation No. 1A, revised, by the amount of payment and collection vouchers in transit between the Veterans Administration and regional disbursing offices at the close of the fiscal year.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMPENSATION CASES AND COSTS

(Dollars are in thousands)

Veterans	1969 Actual	1970 Actual	1971 Actual	1972 Actual	1973 Actual	1974 Actual	1975 Actual	1976 Actual	TQ Actual	1977 Estimate
Spanish-American War	49	38	30	23	16	11	11	8	7	5
Mexican border period				10	12	13	11	12	11	11
World War I	94,613	87,569	81,259	74,528	67,815	61,937	56,657	52,220	49,071	46,200
World War II	1,441,603	1,423,798	1,405,282	1,383,297	1,360,232	1,339,747	1,318,136	1,297,597	1,284,408	1,272,200
Korean conflict	235,086	237,912	239,204	239,971	240,488	240,573	240,034	239,839	239,693	239,500
Vietnam era	70,434	131,657	209,828	279,521	333,192	372,824	405,812	440,056	464,014	488,700
Peacetime service	181,314	184,020	186,630	188,779	190,698	191,896	193,226	194,793	196,842	198,500
Total	2,024,099	2,064,994	2,122,213	2,166,129	2,192,423	2,207,001	2,213,887	2,225,135	2,234,046	2,245,116
Average payment per case, per year	$1,060	$1,159	$1,286	$1,293	$1,420	$1,489	$1,715	$1,904	$483	$2,085
Total cost (in thousands)	$2,146,083	$2,392,737	$2,729,554	$2,801,572	$3,113,133	$3,285,411	$3,797,330	$4,236,598	$1,078,704	$4,681,601
Survivors										
Prior to Spanish-American War	36	33	25	20	15	13	10	9	9	7
Spanish-American War	486	438	384	345	312	291	264	238	214	195
Mexican border period				1	2	2	3	3	3	2
World War I	38,512	37,732	37,076	37,109	36,825	36,164	35,358	34,699	34,211	34,100
World War II	219,629	213,947	208,426	206,123	202,817	198,350	194,091	190,099	187,439	187,100
Korean conflict	40,085	39,749	39,328	39,473	39,484	39,288	39,274	39,360	39,289	39,400
Vietnam era	24,493	32,075	37,735	42,161	45,959	49,187	52,348	55,818	57,886	59,495
Peacetime service	47,653	48,015	48,255	48,864	49,161	48,941	48,514	48,147	47,855	47,700
Total	370,894	371,989	371,229	374,096	374,575	372,236	369,862	368,373	366,906	367,899
Average payment per case, per year	$1,444	$1,598	$1,738	$1,870	$1,968	$2,042	$2,326	$2,595	$660	$2,820
Total cost (in thousands)	$535,754	$594,618	$645,319	$699,678	$737,343	$760,060	$860,167	$955,957	$242,304	$1,037,627

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PENSION CASES AND COSTS

(Dollars are in thousands)

Veterans	1969 Actual	1970 Actual	1971 Actual	1972 Actual	1973 Actual	1974 Actual	1975 Actual	1976 Actual	TQ Actual	1977 Estimate
Prior to Spanish-American War	2	2	1	1	1					
Spanish-American War	6,252	4,830	3,802	2,877	2,159	1,583	1,164	827	642	455
Mexican border period			11	366	476	427	387	352	330	290
World War I	782,458	717,772	652,134	594,193	531,408	467,062	406,290	349,238	318,755	319,556
World War II	325,346	356,339	393,438	445,417	495,136	525,409	554,618	592,046	620,944	646,088
Korean conflict	22,434	24,952	28,371	33,394	38,886	43,534	48,721	55,569	61,119	61,967
Vietnam era	576	1,108	1,877	2,943	4,224	5,378	6,686	8,221	9,443	10,288
Peacetime service	111	100	90	77	68	55	45	38	36	34
Total	1,137,179	1,105,103	1,079,724	1,079,268	1,072,338	1,043,448	1,017,911	1,006,291	1,011,268	1,038,698
Average payment per case, per year	$1,159	$1,228	$1,284	$1,368	$1,377	$1,414	$1,545	$1,644	$410	$1,782
Total cost (in thousands)	$1,317,919	$1,357,113	$1,386,343	$1,476,626	$1,476,651	$1,475,547	$1,572,884	$1,654,315	$417,385	$1,851,351
Survivors										
Prior to Spanish-American War	1,281	1,098	951	817	696	588	504	434	398	360
Spanish-American War	47,274	43,661	39,366	35,665	32,126	29,028	25,825	23,056	21,338	20,100
Mexican border period			4	228	423	499	529	566	579	600
World War I	577,904	590,823	597,898	612,088	619,828	605,670	586,463	573,032	562,958	566,927
World War II	420,971	448,821	474,917	503,931	526,678	529,777	529,319	544,620	547,574	559,232
Korean conflict	50,529	57,917	65,881	74,430	82,546	88,484	93,266	99,322	102,253	108,611
Vietnam era	1,124	2,462	4,468	7,011	9,929	12,372	15,018	18,546	21,266	23,400
Peacetime service	18	16	16	17	15	13	13	9	8	5
Total	1,099,101	1,144,798	1,183,501	1,234,187	1,272,241	1,266,431	1,250,937	1,259,586	1,256,388	1,279,235
Average payment per case, per year	$773	$793	$814	$863	$863	$863	$922	$973	$242	$1,015
Total cost (in thousands)	$849,216	$907,434	$963,656	$1,065,583	$1,097,847	$1,092,989	$1,153,096	$1,226,101	$303,917	$1,298,065

COMPENSATION AND PENSION DISTRIBUTION, FISCAL YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1977

	Fiscal year 1965 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1966 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1967 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1968 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1969 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1970 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1971 actual [1]
Total cost	$4,108,826,260	$4,388,501,827	$4,489,459,585	$4,613,410,651	$4,941,069,623	$5,358,855,149	$5,839,300,281
Compensation, total	2,176,156,910	2,313,496,703	2,415,058,247	2,470,572,294	2,681,836,866	2,987,355,745	3,374,573,122
Living veterans, total	1,704,796,940	1,830,456,238	1,917,839,953	1,953,878,865	2,146,082,928	2,392,737,423	3,729,253,907
Spanish-American War	281,809	266,849	258,420	215,879	198,905	178,888	150,823
Mexican Border period							
World War I	165,220,460	166,579,484	163,463,544	152,849,789	154,580,970	154,954,702	157,054,874
World War II	1,201,241,384	1,282,981,003	1,331,919,985	1,334,885,528	1,419,158,944	1,511,209,880	1,657,282,031
Korean Conflict	214,080,123	235,392,184	251,005,749	257,515,027	281,248,370	308,306,146	344,842,705
Vietnam Era				38,973,887	118,021,111	227,232,708	355,347,182
Peacetime service	123,972,975	145,236,718	171,192,255	169,438,753	172,894,627	190,855,100	214,576,292
Survivors, total	471,359,970	483,040,465	497,218,294	516,693,430	535,753,939	594,618,322	645,319,215
Indian Wars	3,440	3,269		2,153	5,973	4,800	2,171
Civil War	67,776	52,498	51,015	44,990	46,014	45,536	39,017
Spanish-American War	1,092,770	1,035,285	943,287	858,969	784,285	820,781	806,663
Mexican Border period							
World War I	64,089,425	64,913,068	64,423,027	64,048,664	63,885,064	72,568,344	78,295,612
World War II	271,057,928	271,519,203	273,700,564	276,410,332	275,264,683	289,972,290	305,230,709
Korean Conflict	55,128,727	56,467,931	57,277,955	58,116,717	59,083,349	63,303,260	66,856,156
Vietnam Era				19,457,758	49,744,613	71,499,497	89,943,277
Peacetime service	79,919,904	89,049,211	100,822,446	97,753,846	86,939,957	96,404,014	104,145,610
Pensions, total	1,863,460,738	1,999,439,272	1,975,523,371	2,051,864,975	2,167,135,431	2,264,546,382	2,349,999,585
Living veterans, total	1,223,930,503	1,300,573,590	1,263,193,028	1,272,445,853	1,317,919,347	1,357,112,855	1,386,343,273
Indian Wars	20,076	10,829	5,105	3,258	3,240	4,005	1,819
Spanish-American War	20,485,634	17,811,023	14,257,198	11,809,235	9,618,787	7,353,598	6,007,325
Mexican Border period							52,320
World War I	968,029,650	980,621,414	914,304,341	876,131,438	858,140,622	827,315,898	778,880,197
World War II	219,347,271	282,228,898	312,462,034	358,458,008	418,714,830	493,978,047	555,299,025
Korean Conflict	16,018,930	19,873,092	22,138,796	25,734,739	30,358,757	36,143,219	42,670,761
Vietnam Era				286,965	1,062,494	2,100,370	3,415,655
Peacetime service	28,942	28,313	25,554	22,193	20,618	17,921	16,171
Survivors, total	639,530,235	688,865,703	712,330,343	779,419,122	849,216,084	907,433,527	963,656,312
Indian Wars	250,594	227,920	199,567	194,699	173,727	153,869	146,183
Civil War	1,444,340	1,245,682	1,070,427	1,004,223	865,147	932,253	817,588
Spanish-American War	48,413,359	45,709,790	42,251,689	42,904,283	41,660,697	38,821,040	46,081,580
Mexican Border period	325,366,515	342,044,206	343,977,530	368,454,923	400,314,393	423,188,250	1,959
World War I	240,194,497	270,641,813	290,846,905	325,084,324	356,333,612	385,277,004	447,477,[illegible]
World War II	23,844,840	28,990,414	33,979,027	41,463,765	48,920,694	56,876,500	409,686,083
Korean Conflict				308,729	944,413	2,181,833	64,947,037
Vietnam Era				308,729	944,413	2,181,833	4,480,112
Peacetime service	7,000	5,878	5,198	4,176	3,491	2,777	2,712
Other, total	89,208,612	85,565,852	98,877,967	90,964,381	92,097,328	106,953,022	114,817,574

See footnotes at end of table.

COMPENSATION AND PENSION DISTRIBUTION, FISCAL YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1977—Continued

	Fiscal year 1972 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1973 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1974 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1975 actual [1]	Fiscal year 1976 actual [1]	Transition quarter actual [1]	Fiscal year 1977 estimate [1]
Total cost	$5,170,861,747	$6,586,446,605	$6,734,437,280	$7,544,379,945	$8,238,821,580	$2,067,912,845	$9,031,901,000
Compensation, total	3,501,250,104	3,850,475,399	4,045,471,177	4,657,497,333	5,192,554,569	1,321,007,673	5,719,228,000
Living veterans, total	2,801,571,830	3,113,133,089	3,285,410,992	3,797,329,906	4,236,598,086	1,078,703,704	4,681,601,000
Spanish-American War	114,048	114,435	68,966	78,528	69,286	9,571	35,000
American Border period	70,444	73,920	68,286	88,444	99,261	26,563	82,000
World War I	142,697,347	140,503,222	130,348,623	133,261,644	131,373,981	30,887,248	124,311,000
World War II	1,654,272,533	1,806,159,821	1,844,035,818	2,094,046,857	2,296,676,679	577,983,530	2,425,862,000
Korean Conflict	351,577,389	398,596,067	404,744,889	463,762,424	514,895,017	130,241,735	568,532,000
Vietnam Era	434,438,259	535,323,712	591,580,590	739,926,361	881,684,853	232,982,848	1,095,486,000
Peacetime service	218,401,810	242,361,912	314,563,818	366,165,708	411,799,008	106,572,209	467,293,000
Survivors, total	699,678,274	737,342,310	760,060,186	860,167,367	955,956,483	242,303,969	1,037,627,000
Indian Wars	1,946	1,858	1,814	2,064	2,320	579	2,000
Civil War	33,036	29,474	27,206	22,013	22,937	5,090	18,000
Spanish-American War	765,982	736,777	696,953	726,890	699,957	160,298	629,000
Mexican Border period	2,693	5,882	6,195	6,031	14,599	3,297	5,000
World War I	83,741,214	86,484,927	87,335,903	97,462,343	106,371,358	26,404,881	112,660,000
World War II	326,592,799	340,016,000	346,175,868	383,777,004	420,408,998	106,399,166	447,702,000
Korean Conflict	72,010,784	75,408,064	78,004,945	88,391,737	98,543,871	25,114,887	107,013,000
Vietnam Era	104,187,650	116,785,715	127,252,348	153,129,249	179,555,667	46,373,703	207,873,000
Peacetime service	112,342,170	117,873,013	120,558,953	136,650,036	150,336,778	37,842,068	166,715,000
Pensions, total	2,542,208,445	2,574,498,363	2,568,536,269	2,725,980,133	2,880,415,727	718,823,372	3,134,683,000
Living veterans, total	1,476,625,861	1,476,651,181	1,475,547,381	1,572,883,991	1,654,314,833	414,906,048	1,842,780,000
Indian Wars	1,851	2,330	(158)	158			
Spanish-American War	4,714,120	3,559,644	2,579,389	2,144,153	1,611,158	324,634	1,235,000
Mexican Border period	627,772	615,073	556,434	541,956	510,840	120,811	493,000
World War I	746,828,487	669,523,606	599,330,979	555,818,570	501,639,328	115,610,771	552,436,000
World War II	665,387,857	732,359,332	791,951,902	912,193,599	1,025,063,984	264,198,714	1,142,281,000
Korean Conflict	53,543,215	62,935,717	71,411,820	88,730,786	108,243,882	29,592,707	124,748,000
Vietnam Era	5,507,079	7,644,448	9,700,767	13,447,115	17,239,176	5,056,844	21,501,000
Peacetime service	15,480	11,030	9,249	7,654	6,461	1,566	6,000
Survivors, total	1,065,582,584	1,097,847,182	1,092,988,888	1,153,096,142	1,226,100,894	303,917,324	1,291,923,000
Indian Wars	127,942	114,969	96,979	81,908	68,924	16,688	61,000
Civil War	708,285	593,498	512,218	447,764	387,287	91,191	361,000
Spanish-American War	33,372,852	31,329,834	28,622,910	26,455,979	24,644,719	5,820,107	23,681,000
Mexican Border period	293,340	364,086	384,439	413,393	443,695	100,090	516,000
World War I	491,450,274	491,533,023	489,097,105	472,563,840	475,536,114	115,271,631	479,180,000
World War II	455,841,006	478,347,714	488,775,596	530,499,715	581,379,824	144,758,503	618,183,000
Korean Conflict	76,523,713	85,461,539	92,517,694	105,328,250	120,192,043	31,113,389	138,763,000
Vietnam Era	7,261,668	10,095,995	12,979,437	17,302,041	23,446,116	6,745,204	31,177,000
Peacetime service	3,504	6,524	2,511	2,952	2,172	522	1,000
Other, total	127,403,198	143,472,844	120,429,833	180,902,479	165,851,284	48,081,800	177,990,000

[1] Includes supplementals.

NOTE.—Columns may not add due to rounding.

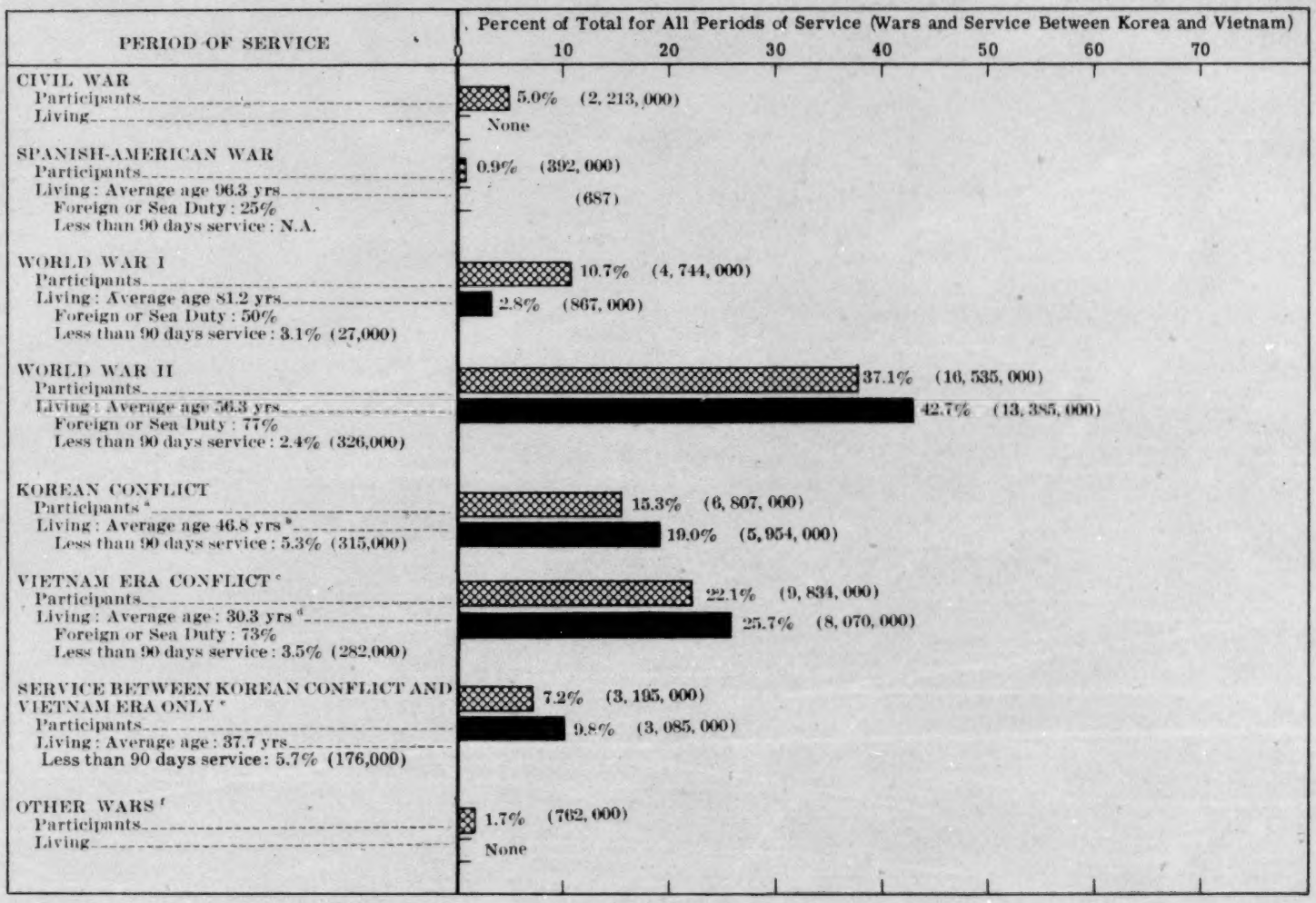
COMPARISON OF APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEARS 1967 THROUGH 1977

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	TQ	1977
Appropriations	P.L. 89-555 9-6-66	P.L. 90-121 11-3-67	P.L. 90-550 10-4-68	P.L. 91-128 11-26-69	P.L. 91-556 12-17-70	P.L. 92-78 8-10-71	P.L. 92-383 8-14-72	P.L. 93-137 10-26-73	P.L. 93-414 9-6-74	P.L. 94-116 10-17-75		P.L. 94-378 8-9-76
Supplementals	P.L. 89-697 10-27-66 P.L. 90-21 5-29-67	P.L. 90-392 7-9-68	P.L. 91-47 7-22-69	P.L. 91-305 7-6-70	P.L. 92-11 4-30-71 P.L. 92-18 5-25-71	P.L. 92-306 5-27-72	P.L. 93-25 4-26-73 P.L. 93-50 7-1-73	P.L. 93-261 4-11-74 P.L. 93-305 6-6-74 P.L. 93-321 6-30-74	P.L. 93-554 12-27-74 P.L. 93-624 1-3-75 P.L. 94-17 4-24-75 P.L. 94-32 6-12-75	P.L. 94-303 6-1-76		
General operating expenses	$182,437,000	$189,221,000	$207,000,000	$241,731,719	$256,130,000	$291,138,000	$319,651,000	$334,853,000	$432,028,000	$483,300,000	$121,230,000	$508,383
Medical Administration and miscellaneous operating expenses	14,312,000	13,975,000	14,789,000	17,905,000	20,161,000	22,531,000	28,737,000	34,063,000	37,508,000	38,528,000	10,230,000	39,941
Medical and prosthetic research	44,258,000	45,850,000	48,018,000	58,783,131	62,664,000	69,907,000	77,988,000	76,142,000	91,377,000	97,309,000	25,527,000	101,633
Medical care	1,292,875,000	1,361,593,000	1,474,064,000	1,653,311,067	1,941,523,000	2,299,329,000	2,606,153,000	2,859,173,000	3,317,520,000	3,854,456,000	1,015,070,000	4,218,032
Compensation and pensions	4,474,000,000	4,605,500,000	4,930,936,000	5,314,400,000	5,890,379,000	6,248,000,000	6,448,000,000	6,752,500,000	7,539,400,000	8,249,200,000	2,139,700,000	8,153,400
Readjustment benefits	389,400,000	427,200,000	701,200,000	1,069,700,000	1,656,700,000	1,893,700,000	2,692,400,000	3,353,000,000	4,550,738,000	6,014,475,000	1,159,472,000	4,813,000
Veterans insurance and indemnities [1]	3,500,000	5,150,000	9,350,000	7,253,000	5,100,000	6,500,000	4,400,000		8,750,000	6,600,000	2,450,000	7,000
Assistance for health manpower training institutions							20,000,000	25,000,000	10,000,000	30,000,000	8,332,000	35,000
Construction of hospital and domiciliary facilities	52,125,000	52,600,000	7,926,000	60,152,000	50,000,000	93,622,000						
Construction, major projects							125,993,000	68,343,000	251,127,000	297,464,000	15,860,000	405,681
Construction, minor projects							55,000,000	40,018,000	51,894,000	106,426,000	16,490,000	92,001
Construction, Corregidor-Bataan Memorial												
Grants for construction of State extended care facilities	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	7,500,000	8,000,000	6,000,000		9,700,000	10,000,000		10,000
Grants to the Republic of the Philippines	1,136,000	1,325,000	1,776,000	1,362,000	2,000,000	2,100,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,050,000	2,100,000	525,000	2,100
Soldiers' and sailors' civil relief												
Payments of sales insufficiencies		665,000	9,506,000	5,716,000	6,128,000	5,929,000	5,000,000	4,400,000	1,828,000			
Vocational Rehabilitation Revolving Fund									97,000	100,000		
Supply Fund										110,000,000		
Total	6,438,043,000	6,707,079,000	7,408,564,000	8,473,313,917	9,909,405,000	10,935,756,000	12,391,322,000	13,540,792,000	16,304,017,000	19,299,958,000	4,514,886,000	18,386,171

[1] Excludes permanent indefinite.

ARMED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS AND LIVING VETERANS, SHOWING CURRENT AVERAGE AGE, AND PERCENTAGES WHO SERVED ON FOREIGN OR SEA DUTY, FOR LESS THAN 90 DAYS, AND PARTICIPANTS AND LIVING VETERANS OF EACH PERIOD OF SERVICE AS PERCENTAGES OF TOTALS

(As of June 30, 1976)



[a] 1, 476, 000 had also served during World War II.

[b] 1, 238, 000 had also served during World War II.

[c] Active duty service between August 4, 1964 and May 8, 1975. Excludes active duty for training only.

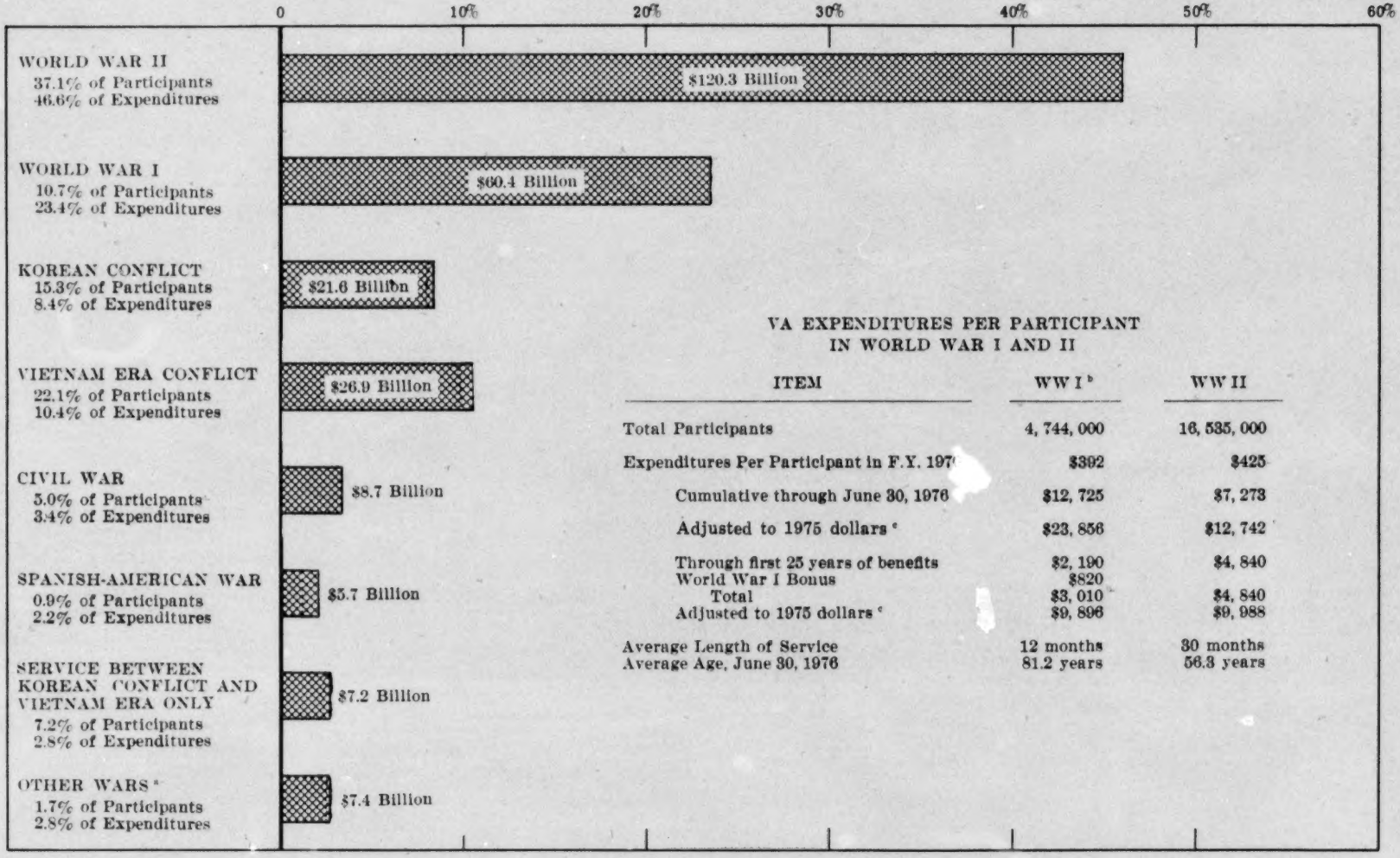
[d] 517, 000 had also served during the Korean conflict.

[e] Active duty service between January 31, 1955 and August 5, 1964. Excludes active duty for training only.

[f] War of The Revolution, War of 1812, Mexican War, Indian Wars.

VA EXPENDITURES FROM APPROPRIATED FUNDS BY WAR

THROUGH JUNE 30, 1976



VA EXPENDITURES PER PARTICIPANT IN WORLD WAR I AND II

ITEM	WW I [b]	WW II
Total Participants	4, 744, 000	16, 535, 000
Expenditures Per Participant in F.Y. 197	$392	$425
Cumulative through June 30, 1976	$12, 725	$7, 273
Adjusted to 1975 dollars [c]	$23, 856	$12, 742
Through first 25 years of benefits	$2, 190	$4, 840
World War I Bonus	$820	
Total	$3, 010	$4, 840
Adjusted to 1975 dollars [c]	$9, 896	$9, 988
Average Length of Service	12 months	30 months
Average Age, June 30, 1976	81.2 years	56.3 years

[a] Includes War of the Revolution, War of 1812, Mexican War, Mexican Border Period, Indian Wars and Regular Establishment.

[b] Estimated; includes $3.8 billion from adjusted service certificate fund (WW I Bonus).

[c] Basis of adjustment, Bureau of Labor Statistic Consumer Prince Index, 1967 = 100.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AND DEATHS IN SERVICE DURING ALL WARS, AND THE POST-KOREAN CONFLICT PERIOD; NUMBER OF LIVING VETERANS, AND VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS ON COMPENSATION AND PENSION ROLLS, JULY 1, 1976

American Revolution (1775–1784)

Participants	290,000
Deaths in service	4,000
Last veteran died April 5, 1869	Age 109
Last dependent died April 25, 1911	Age 90

War of 1812 (1812–1815)

Participants	287,000
Deaths in service	2,000
Last veteran died May 13, 1905	Age 105
Last dependent died March 12, 1946	Age 89

Mexican War (1846–1848)

Participants	79,000
Deaths in service	13,000
Last veteran died September 3, 1929	Age 98
Last dependent died November 1, 1962	Age 94

Civil War (1861–1865)

	Confederate	Union
Participants	1,000,000*	2,213,000
Deaths in service	133,821*	364,511
Last Union veterans died August 2, 1956		Age 109
Last Confederate veterans died December 19, 1959		Age 117

Compensation and Pension Rolls (75% Union, 25% Confederate)

Widows	158
Children	187

Indian Wars (Approx. 1817–1898)

Participants	106,000
Deaths in service	1,000
Last veteran died June 18, 1973	Age 101

Compensation and Pension Rolls

Widows	58
Children	13

Spanish-American War (1898–1902)

Participants	392,000
Deaths in service	11,000
Living veterans	687

Compensation and Pension Rolls

Widows	20,978
Children	1,280
Veterans	687

World War I (1917–1918)

Participants	4,744,000
Deaths in service	116,000
Living veterans	867,000

Compensation and Pension Rolls

Parents	323
Widows	586,620
Children	25,821
Veterans	374,879

World War II (September 16, 1940–July 25, 1947)

Participants	[a] 16,535,000
Deaths in service	406,000
Living veterans	[b] 13,385,000

Compensation and Pension Rolls

Parents	104,485
Widows	452,116
Children	502,850
Veterans	1,897,819

Korean Conflict (June 27, 1950–January 31, 1955)

Participants	[c] 6,807,000
Deaths in service	55,000
Living veterans	[b] 5,954,000

Compensation and Pension Rolls

Parents	23,241
Widows	51,690
Children	220,824
Veterans	299,038

Post-Korean Conflict (February 1955–August 4, 1964)

Participants	3,195,000
Deaths in service	20,000
Living veterans	3,085,000

Vietnam Era (August 5, 1964–May 7, 1975)

Participants	[c] 9,834,000
On active duty in armed forces	[d] 1,556,000
Deaths in service:	
Due to hostile forces	47,000
Due to other causes	60,000
Deaths in civil life	101,000
Living veterans	[c] 8,070,000

Compensation and Pension Rolls

Parents	22,155
Widows	41,371
Children	99,477
Veterans	467,065

America's Wars Total Through July 1, 1976

Participants**	[d] 44,482,000
Deaths in service	1,099,000
Living veterans	29,607,000

Veterans and Dependents on Pension and Compensation Rolls

Parents	[f] 164,056
Widows	[g] 1,186,366
Children	[h] 870,262
Veterans	[i] 3,235,778

*Authoritative statistics for Confederate Forces not available. Estimated 28,000 Confederate personnel died in Union prisons.

**Persons who served in more than one war period are counted as participants in each.

[a] Includes 1,476,000 who served in both World War II and the Korean Conflict.

[b] Includes 1,238,000 with service in both World War II and the Korean Conflict.

[c] Includes 887,000 who served in the Korean Conflict.

[d] Excludes 544,000 active-duty service members with no active-duty service prior to May 8, 1975.

[e] Includes 517,000 who served in the Korean Conflict.

[f] Includes 13,852 parents of deceased peacetime veterans and of deceased veterans with service between January 31, 1955 and August 5, 1964.

[g] Includes 33,375 widows of deceased peacetime veterans and of deceased veterans with service between January 31, 1955 and August 5, 1964 and of deceased veterans of the Mexican Border with service between May 9, 1916 and April 5, 1917.

[h] Includes 19,810 children of deceased peacetime veterans and of deceased veterans with service between January 31, 1955 and August 5, 1964 and of deceased veterans of the Mexican Border with service between May 9, 1916 and April 5, 1917.

[i] Includes 196,290 peacetime veterans and veterans with service between January 31, 1955 and August 5, 1964 and veterans of the Mexican Border with service between May 9, 1916 and April 5, 1917.

Page

Allies' veterans, hospital and medical benefits provided (P.L. 94–491) 16
American Battle Monuments Commission, revised per diem allowance for members (P.L. 94–256) 7
Annullment of a marriage (P.L. 94–433) 15
Appropriations:
  Comparison, fiscal years 1967–1977 28
  Compensation and pension cases and costs, 1969–1977 25
  Compensation and pension distribution, fiscal years 1965–1977 26
  Expenditures from appropriated funds, by war 24, 30
Armed services participants, living veterans, by war 29, 31
Automobiles and adaptive equipment (P.L. 94–433, P.L. 94–581) 15, 19
Battle Monuments Commission (See: American Battle Monuments Commission)
Bills reported, 94th Congress, digest of final action, additional costs incurred 23
Burial benefit (P.L. 94–433) 15
Cemeteries and burial benefits (P.L. 94–433, H.R. 8891, H.R. 11140, H.R. 12735) 15, 21
  Establishment of national cemeteries at March Air Force Base in California and Otis Air Force Base in Massachusetts (H.R. 8891) 21
  Establishment of national cemetery at Quantico, Virginia (H.R. 11140) 21
  VA authorized to pay cost of transporting the remains of deceased, service-disabled veterans to a national cemetery (P.L. 94–433) 15
  VA required to pay allowance to any State for expenses incurred in burial of a veteran in a State cemetery (H.R. 12735) 21
Compensation (P.L. 94–71, P.L. 94–433) 1–4, 13–15
  Rates increased (P.L. 94–71, P.L. 94–433) 1, 13
  Retroactive pay in case of increased disability (P.L. 94–71) 2
  VA directed to conduct scientific study regarding possible causal relationship between amputation and cardiovascular disorders (P.L. 94–433) 15
Costs:
  Bills enacted, 94th Congress 23
  Compensation and pension 25, 26
  Veterans' programs, by war 24, 30
Deaths in service, all wars 31
Dependency and indemnity compensation for parents, widows and children (P.L. 94–71, P.L. 94–169, P.L. 94–432, P.L. 94–433) 1–4, 5, 6, 10–15
  Children:
    Rates increased (P.L. 94–71, P.L. 94–433) 1, 13
  Parents:
    Rates and income limits increased (P.L. 94–169, P.L. 94–432) 5, 11
  VA required to conduct study of DIC program (P.L. 94–433) 15
  Widows:
    Rates increased (P.L. 94–71, P.L. 94–433) 1, 13, 14
Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans' Hospital (H.R. 15671) 22
Education (P.L. 94–502) 16, 17
  Allowances increased (P.L. 94–502) 16
  Education loans, maximum increased (P.L. 94–502) 17
  Educational assistance program improved and administration of education benefits strengthened to prevent or reduce abuse (P.L. 94–502) 16, 17

Page

Education—Continued
  Nine months additional training for all eligible veterans, survivors and dependents (P.L. 94–502) 16
  Post-Vietnam Era contributory educational assistance program (P.L. 94–502) 16
  Predischarge education program (PREP) terminated (P.L. 94–502) 16
  Prepay education allowances terminated (P.L. 94–502) 16
  State approving agencies, allowance and fees increased (P.L. 94–502) 16
  Termination date established for benefits under Chapter 34 of title 38, U.S. Code (P.L. 94–502) 16
  VA study into effectiveness of vocational objective courses (P.L. 94–502) 17
  Vocational rehabilitation for seriously disabled service-connected veterans (P.L. 94–502) 17
Employment (P.L. 94–502) 16, 17
  Establishment of Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment (P.L. 94–502) 16
  Termination of 5-point entitlement to veterans preference in Federal employment (P.L. 94–502) 16
Expenditures for participants in wars 24, 30
Grants to States for veterans' homes, Federal payment increased (P.L. 94–417) 9
Home, farm and business loans (P.L. 94–324, P.L. 94–433) 8, 9, 15
  Direct home loan single standard established (P.L. 94–324) 8
  Direct Loan Revolving Fund made permanent (P.L. 94–324) 8
  Eligibility for housing benefits extended (P.L. 94–324) 8
  Guaranty for mobile home loans increased (P.L. 94–324) 8
  Mortgage protection life insurance (P.L. 94–433) 15
  State constitutional usury provisions preempted, under certain conditions (P.L. 94–324) 9
Insurance:
  Mortgage protection life insurance (P.L. 94–433) 15
James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital (H.R. 12896) 22
Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans' Hospital, naming (P.L. 94–246) 6, 7
Living veterans, participants in wars, deaths in service 31
Living veterans, participants in wars, percentage of participants and living veterans, by war 29
Medical and hospitals (P.L. 94–123, P.L. 94–246, P.L. 94–321, P.L. 94–417, P.L. 94–420, P.L. 94–424, P.L. 94–491, P.L. 94–581, H.R. 1547, H.R. 12896, H.R. 14469, H.R. 15671) 4–10, 16, 18–20, 22
  Allies' veterans provided care (P.L. 94–491) 16
  Causal relationship between cardiovascular disorders and amputation to be studied by VA (P.L. 94–433) 15
  CHAMPVA benefits eligibility broadened (P.L. 94–581) 19
  Consultation, counseling and mental health services for family members authorized (P.L. 94–581) 18
  Contractual arrangements with private industry for provision of rehabilitative services authorized (P.L. 94–581) 19

Page

Medical and hospitals—Continued
- Cooperation with State or local public health authorities (P.L. 94–321) 7, 8
- Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans' Hospital (H.R. 15671) 22
- Exchange of medical information program, continued funding (P.L. 94–424) 10
- Extension of medical benefits to survivors of veterans who at time of death suffered from total and permanent service-connected disability (H.R. 1547) 20
- GAO report on recruitment and retention of health care personnel other than physicians and dentists (P.L. 94–123) 4, 5
- Immunization programs authorized (P.L. 94–581) 19
- Individuals to be notified of eligibility changes in health care benefits (P.L. 94–581) 19, 20
- James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital (H.R. 12896) 22
- Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans' Hospital (P.L. 94–246) 6, 7
- Long-term leasing agreements with medical schools authorized for VA (P.L. 94–581) 19
- Nurses compensatory time off (P.L. 94–123) 5
- OMB report on recruitment and retention of physicians and dentists (P.L. 94–123) 4, 5
- Outpatient dental care and treatment authorized (P.L. 94–581) 18
- Patients' names, and addresses, release of (P.L. 94–321) 7, 8
- Priority system for outpatient services established (P.L. 94–581) 18, 19
- Protection of patients' rights prescribed (P.L. 94–581) 19
- Special pay to eligible physicians and dentists (P.L. 94–123, P.L. 94–581, H.R. 14469) 4, 19, 22
- State veterans' homes (P.L. 94–417, P.L. 94–581) 9, 19
- Travel reimbursement to VA facilities (P.L. 94–581) 18

Page

Medical and hospitals—Continued
- VA annual report on operation of special pay program (P.L. 94–123) 4
- VA authorized to furnish disabled veterans home health services (P.L. 94–581) 18
- VA study of care of elderly veterans required (P.L. 94–581) 19, 20

Pension (P.L. 94–169, P.L. 94–432) 5, 6, 10–12
- Increases in income limits (P.L. 94–169, P.L. 94–432) 5, 10
- Increases in pension payments (P.L. 94–169, P.L. 94–432) 5, 10
- Requirement of other agency heads to furnish entitlement information to the VA Administrator on request (P.L. 94–432) 11
- Total disability definition changed (P.L. 94–432) 10
- Twenty-five percent added differential for pensioners 78 years of age or older (P.L. 94–432) 11
- VA required to conduct study in FY 1977 into current pension program (P.L. 94–432) 11

Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 94–321) 7, 8

Technical amendments to title 38 of United States Code (H.R. 3350) 20

VA release of names and addresses of veterans (P.L. 94–321) 7, 8

Veterans' Administration Physicians and Dentists Comparability Pay Act of 1975 (P.L. 94–123) 4, 5

Veterans and Survivors Pension Adjustment Act of 1975 (P.L. 94–169) 5, 6

Veterans and Survivors Pension Adjustment Act of 1976 (P.L. 94–432) 10–12

Veterans' Education and Employment Assistance Act of 1976 (P.L. 94–502) 16, 17

Veterans' Housing Amendments Act of 1976 (P.L. 94–324) 8, 9

Veterans' Omnibus Health Care Act of 1976 (P.L. 94–581) 18–20

William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans' Hospital (P.L. 94–420) 9, 10

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